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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8TH, 2009

Macmillan Cancer charity benefits as father and son enter Barcelona Triathlon

AND THE EDMONDES ARMS ALSO LENDS A HAND!

by TIM CHAPMAN

INTREPID Cowbridge father and son Gareth and Hywel Petty are to go through the pain barrier again on behalf of Macmillan Cancer Care – by competing in this year's Barcelona Triathlon.

Last year, The GEM reported how Gareth and Hywel took on the London Triathlon, beginning the challenge at 8am one Sunday morning by jumping into a freezing dock!

Hywel said: "Last year we raised £1,700, and this year we decided to do another triathlon for Macmillan."

Gareth explained that this time they plan to venture a lot further afield. "We're flying out to Barcelona on October 16 and will be competing a couple of days later.

"A total of 4,000 people from all over Europe are taking part.

"We also want to say a big thank you to everyone at the Edmondes Arms in Cowbridge, Trevor and Sue who run it, and all the regulars for getting behind us."

Sue Pickin, Macmillan Cancer Support fundraising manager for the Vale, told The GEM: "Last year Gareth and Hywel did the London Triathlon – this year they are off to Barcelona, and it is fantastic that they do so much to help people who are living with cancer.

"The support of people like Gareth and Hywel is invaluable to us – they're providing help for people when they need it most."

Father and son have have been personally touched by relatives and friends who have had cancer, hence their commitment to Macmillan.

The triathlon in Barcelona comprises a 1,500m swim, a 40k bike ride, and a 10k run.

Hywel said: "We've been preparing for the swimming in the international pool in Cardiff, and doing bike rides around the Vale and at Southerndown and Ogmore."

Gareth added: "Last year, we did the London Triathlon in three hours, so it would be nice to beat the three-hour mark this time."

Trevor Morgan, the landlord of the Edmondes Arms, which is a big supporter of Gareth and Hywel, is also having a special evening on behalf of Macmillan Cancer Care on Saturday, October 10.

Trevor explained: "We're having a fundraising evening which starts at 8pm.

"There's a live band – Blue Traffic – an auction and raffle. Please come along to support a great cause."

If anone wants to sponsor Gareth or Hywel, they can get a sponsorship form at the Edmondes Arms, or phone Gareth on 07932 94 7777.

ABOVE: Hywel Petty, Sue Pickin of Macmillan Cancer Care, Trevor Morgan of the Edmondes Arms and Gareth Petty are hoping people will attend a special charity night at the popular pub this Saturday, October 10.

'Pupils fully supervised by teachers'

The Vale Council reviews use of the bus park at local comprehensive

THE Vale Council is reviewing the use of the new bus park at Cowbridge Comprehensive School and is consulting the headteacher and transport operators.

Both the council and the school emphasise that safety of pupils is paramount and that youngsters are fully supervised by teachers when they board school buses arriving at the bus park.

One veteran bus driver, Mr Wally Leigh, of Watts Coaches, suggests that with darker days approaching, a change in the way buses collect children from designated pick-up bays at the school could ease any concerns.

Mr Leigh points out: "At the moment, we reverse into those bays. Reversing should only be done with a bus when there is no alternative.

"A bus driver does not have a complete view when he is reversing, and I am concerned that in the winter, when it can be foggy and dark, that there is even less visibility.

"A way to avoid reversing would be for buses to line up alongside the pavement, with a safety rail on that pavement.

"At the top end of the car park, there could be a gap in the safety rail for the children to board the bus at that point."

Mr Leigh, who has 35 years' experience of driving buses, and delivers youngsters to school in the morning and picks them up in the afternoon, says that once a bus at the front of the queue was ready, it could drive off and the next could take its place.

He believes that a safety rail would deter youngsters from stepping onto parking bays.

Another advantage of buses queuing behind each other would be that any children in the area would not be confronted with the fumes of buses that had reversed into the bays.

In the course of a 38-week school year, Mr Leigh estimates an average bus makes 380 reversing manoeuvres.

Mr Leigh feels that if the existing system is retained it could be improved by chevrons between bays, so that buses were further apart – as children currently make their way between buses to board them.

The operational manager for planning and transportation policy at the Vale Council, Emma Harvey, told The GEM: "The council takes the issue of pupil safety very seriously.

"The bus park is a new facility and we are reviewing its use, in conjunction with the headteacher and the bus operators.

"We will, of course, take into consideration any comments we receive. including that of Mr Leigh's employer, Watts Coaches."

Cowbridge Comprehensive head teacher, Margaret Evans, also emphasised:

"I'd like to reassure parents that pupils are fully supervised by teachers when boarding, and are kept away from the bus park when buses arrive.

"They are only allowed to approach the buses when these are parked, with engines turned off.

"At no point do pupils wait on the pavement when buses are reversing.

"Secondly, the bus and car park area is fully lit and there will be no issues with visibility on dark winter evenings," the headteacher added.

'HEY, WHERE DID WE GO?' – *EDINBURGH ACTUALLY!*

MOFFAT'S BROWN-EYED GIRLS ON MARATHON CHARITY WALK

SEVEN local 'girls' have raised more than £2,700 for cancer charities after taking part in a midnight sponsored walk in Scotland.

The team, who called themselves 'Moffat's Brown-Eyed Girls', completed the walk in memory of Lynne Moffat who died of breast cancer last year, aged 55.

Two of her daughters were in the team, and the name was chosen because the Van Morrison classic was one of Lynne's favourite songs.

On June 20, the 'girls' set off for Edinburgh's version of the now famous Moonwalks. It started at midnight, was a marathon (26.2 miles) in length and the team completed the walk wearing decorated bras (using a Welsh theme of dragons in green and red, designed by Paula Jones).

The team completed the gruelling walk within 10 hours. Lisa Moffat and Louise Butcher (both daughters of Lynne Moffat) were the first of the Brown Eyed Girls to finish (in just under eight hours). The rest of the group, Paula Jones, Sharon Brown, Jo David, Susan Edger and Jo Pike all finished shortly afterwards. Jo Pike told The GEM: "Everyone was tired but thrilled they had completed it, after months of training in all kinds of weather."

A total of £1,156 was pledged to the Moonwalk, which aids cancer charities – predominantly breast cancer.

The girls raised another £1,600, and this was donated to Velindre Hospital, Cardiff, which gave Lynne excellent treatment and nursing care throughout her illness.

Jo Pike said: "A big thank you goes to everyone who has sponsored us, including all the shopkeepers and pubs in Llantwit Major and surrounding areas, the Plough and Harrow, Monknash, for help with the fund raising – and to all our husbands, partners and friends for their support."

LEFT: Rachel Williams from Velindre Hospital (second right) receives the cheque from (left to right): Louise Butcher, Jo Pike, Lisa Moffat, Susan Edger, Paula Jones, Sharon Brown and Jo David.

TOWN COUNCIL IN BRIEF

A MEETING is to take place between Cowbridge Town Council and representatives of Holy Cross Church to discuss rat infestation in the area.

• *PLANS to replace the chain link fence at Cae Rex Allotments with another chain link fence were opposed by Coun Marian Arnold.*

In previous meetings, she has argued for a more substantial fence, but members agreed to accept a quotation of £1,680 to carry out the work.

• **A REQUEST has been made by Cowbridge Town Council for the hedges and trees along the boundary of Cowbridge Comprehensive School sixth form block to be trimmed.**

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Charity coffee 'thank you'

MAY I again, through The GEM, say a very very big thank you to all my good friends in Llantwit Major who attended and supported my Macmillan coffee morning.

Also, thank you to all those who made cakes, donated raffle prizes and those who helped on the day to make the Macmillan coffee morning a great success.

My thanks also goes to the Llantwit Major Bowls Club for allowing me to use their clubhouse on the day; and Somerfield, Mirror Image and Co-op Vale Chemist for donating raffle prizes.

A special thank you must go to a senior citizen – Frank Munn who came to the coffee morning quite late and presented me with a large bag of 5p coins totalling £9.60, saved up for a charity, which has been included in my grand total raised for the Macmillan Fund of £334.50.

Well done everyone – my sincere thanks to you all.

Barbara M Sawyer
(Macmillan host)

Memories revived of old Barry College

READING The GEM which was delivered on October 1, I was delighted to read an article about Barry College.

I cannot believe it was nearly 50 years ago that I went there as a student (between 1960-1962). I did a secretarial course and have many happy memories of my time at the college, but in those days it was called The College of Further Education. Arnold James was the Principal.

I have in my possession a magazine called 'Horizon'. It is volume 1 and dated Summer 1962. On the cover is a sketch of the college and the cost was 2/6d. (12½p today). On the inside is a picture of E C Gough, OBE JP, who was chairman of the governors. I also have the college scarf, which was army green, maroon and silver!

Perhaps other readers have memories of 'The College of Further Education'?

Gillian Arthur (nee Booker), Barry

Does a 'women-only' list produce best candidate?

MAY I support the letter from J Evans in The GEM (September 24) regarding all women selection lists.

The Labour Party must have forgotten what happened at Blaenau Gwent when the same system was used.

Personally, I disagree with any lists that are so undemocratic; it is only correct that the electors are presented with the best candidate – whatever their gender.

I feel that a victory won in such a way would be a very hollow one and leaves the electorate wondering if they have the best candidate.

Mary Walker,
Pontyclun

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We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

'WE MUST MAKE LINK ROAD SAFE NOW!'

IN March 2009, after yet more fatalities on the Barry Docks Link Road, the three Cadoc councillors Fred Johnson and Neil Moore and I requested a report to look for further ways to improve road safety and protect residents of Barry and the Vale on this very busy and dangerous road.

Regrettably, the report was brought to the meeting of the economy and environment scrutiny meeting on Tuesday, September 29, a day after another fatality had occurred on this road, which reinforced the urgency of doing something.

Extra safety measures clearly need to be made to this road. My condolences go out to the family and friends of those who have been casualties after incidents on it.

I have had first hand experience of a driver pulling out in front of me when leaving Argae Lane into the main carriageway. It was only luck that allowed me to avoid a collision, but if someone had been approaching in the other direction I may have not been so lucky.

Something really does need to be done to try and prevent more deaths and injuries on this road.

At the meeting, a highways officer presented his report, along with photographic evidence of 123 illegal manoeuvres which were taken by a surveillance camera over approximately a three-week period.

The evidence before us was frightening as this clearly showed many, many incidents of people doing 'U'-turns on this very fast stretch of road.

This is clearly not a local ward issue, but one that affects a lot of people in and around Barry, Sully and Dinas Powys, and I was very pleased to have the unanimous support from the scrutiny committee for the proposals that were put forward.

Coun Neil Moore, who also attended the meeting, proposed that the officers' recommendation that a high definition vehicle recognition CCTV camera be installed, and also the construction of a police observation point on the road, but called for more measures.

Coun Moore requested four other measures that should be introduced. He requested a reduction in the speed limit to 40 mph from the Lidl's roundabout to McDonald's roundabout.

He also called for two speed cameras, one on each carriageway before the junctions off the Link Road.

He also called for the authority to look for a long term solution and funding from the Welsh Assembly, or any other source, to create an elongated roundabout integrating these junctions, if the short term measures are not successful in reducing the accidents on the road. He also called for the council to consider increasing its budget to carry out the work during this financial year if at all possible.

The committee also agreed that letters are written to all MPs, AMs and the Welsh Assembly Government to look for funding for this urgent work.

Now that the scrutiny committee has passed on their recommendations to the Vale Council's cabinet, we trust that the recommendations will be accepted and the safety measures introduced sooner rather than later.

Coun Anne Moore,
Barry

'Planners must rescue last site at Waterfront'

WHEN the Wales Development Agency was operating, and Barry was fortunate enough to have an excellent development officer, in the person of Andrew Dakin, there seemed good grounds for expecting that when the last of the Waterfront sites came up for development, we could look forward to an excitingly and skilfully-designed area of high quality buildings of which we could be proud.

How sad then to see the recently-produced leaflet which seems to indicate a totally overriding desire to cram as many small houses as possible into as small an area as possible, using as little imagination as possible.

Vale of Glamorgan planners, surely you can rescue this last site from this sort of desecration and see that it is developed in a way that befits its importance to our town.

Gareth Howe, Barry

'Why exclude bloom winners?'

I AM somewhat surprised and concerned that the Cowbridge in Bloom committee has decided that the competitors who have won three times in succession should stand down for one year!

Surely this means that the standard will definitely be lowered. The whole point of the competition is for the best display, irrespective of how many times that this has been won by the same displayers!

Glenise Watkins, Cowbridge

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL OCTOBER 15)

The high tides listed in The GEM are those in Barry. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Porthcawl, the high point will be 15– 20 minutes earlier.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
08 Thur	10.03	14.2	22.25	13.9
09 Fri	10.41	13.7	22.59	13.3
10 Sat	11.24	13.1	23.52	12.8
11 Sun			12.15	12.5
12 Mon	00.58	12.1	13.31	12.2
13 Tues	02.27	12.0	14.57	12.3
14 Wed	03.51	12.5	16.19	13.1
15 Thur	04.58	13.3	17.29	13.9

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HELPLINES
Alcohol and drugs:
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National Drugs Helpline **0800 776600**
DASH **01656 650686**
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families **01656 785435**
RAF Association Welfare Officer 01495 249522/01446 740522
SAMARITANS (emotional support) **01656 662333**
VALE WOMEN'S AID 01446 744755
MENTAL DISTRESS
(Mental Health Matters) **01656 767045**
Mental Health Helpline:
Freephone **0800 132 737**
MIND in the Vale of Glamorgan
01446 730792 or www.mindinthevale.org.uk
CHILDLINE 0800 1111 - www.childline.org.uk
Rape Crisis Centre 08451 221331.
RSPCA 0300 123 0744. MIND 01446 746191.
AIDS helplines 0800 567123.
Child abuse – NSPCC 0808 800 5000.
Alcoholics Anonymous – (24 hours) 0845 7697555.
Drug Aid (24 hours) 02920 881000.
Inroads Drugs Project – 42, Holton Road, Barry. 01446 404040.
Vale Victim & Witness Support -
Barry Magistrates Court, Thompson Street, Barry CF63 4SX. 01446 730704.

MP & AM's SURGERY TIMES

To make a surgery appointment with John Smith MP, contact the constituency office (01446) 743769. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

To make a surgery appointment with Jane Hutt AM, contact the constituency office (01446) 740981. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

CITIZENS' ADVICE

At 119 Broad Street, Barry. Drop in Mon-Fri (not Weds) 9.30am - 11.30am (Wed 4-6pm); at Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road 9.30am - 11.30am Mon and Fri. Telephone advice 0845 120 3756. *Further information www.adviceguide.org.uk*

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police - Gladstone Road, Barry; for normal service 01446 734451; in emergency 999. Fire - South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Pontyclun 01443 232000; in emergency 999. Coastguard - Regional Office, Swansea 01792 366534; in emergency 999.
Gas - Gas emergency number 0800 111999.
Electricity - Emergency 0800 0520400; Water - Emergency 0800 052 0130; supply 0800 0520130.
Trading Standards Consumer Advice Centre - Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry; hours of opening for telephone enquiries - Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-5pm; Friday 8.30am-4.30pm on 01446 700111. For personal visits, Monday to Thursday 9am-4.30pm. Friday 9am-4pm. Recycling Hotline, 01446 700111.
To report a fly tipping incident - 01446 700111.

HOSPITALS

The Barry Hospital - visiting 2pm-8pm each day, 01446 704000. Llandough - Wards have individual visiting times. For details call 029 2071 1711. Princess of Wales - 01656 752752/668090.

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Why a local family supports the Winchfield project

I AM a resident of Graig Penllyn and would like to add some comments following a letter you published in last week's GEM, concerning the proposal to put a 1.8-metre wide track around the Winchfield in Graig Penllyn.

Some months ago, the Penllyn & Graig Penllyn residents committee invited all residents to complete a detailed questionnaire about facilities they might like to see in the Winchfield.

The residents' committee also arranged an open afternoon at the village hall, where all the suggestions were displayed, together with maps and ideas of what may be possible.

We were encouraged to add comments to the suggestions to help the committee make an informed decision of what facilities residents would want.

There were many ideas put forward – an outdoor gym circuit, meadow planting, a village pond, a running and cycling track, even a skateboard and BMX bike ramp.

Picnic tables and benches seemed a particularly sought after addition.

My family and I added our comments to other residents, expressing our feeling that from our perspective, a running and cycling track would be a great addition.

We had moved into the village five years ago, with two children who were 6 and 7 years old at the time. We chose the village because we wanted our children to have the benefit of a very local playground, tennis court and field to play in.

We bought a house immediately adjoining the field, sharing a garden boundary with it, like the resident who wrote to The GEM last week. Our house is also one of the few that is built on flat land and many of our windows look directly into the field.

The Winchfield is a vast open space that looks like it should attract village children in their droves. But, in the five years we have been here, it has remained an almost silent space, with a couple of annual village events, very occasional ball play, and a fair amount of dog walking.

What we didn't realise until we did move here was that the Winchfield ground is too uneven for children to cycle on, for mums to stroll with pushchairs, for runners to run on.

Despite having this big open space in the middle of our village, our children have had to learn to cycle on the main village road or side country lanes.

Their village friends have had to do the same, parents out with them, hearts in mouths, as not everyone adheres to the speed limit on country roads.

Mothers have to push baby prams along the country lanes (no pavements here), some hardly wide enough for them and a passing car. People run, always in the daytime, as country roads at night aren't the safest of places for running.

And right next door to us, remains this empty field. A very large space, with one ball hoop and a goal net. The odd weekend may see the occasional football game but the rest of the time it remains mainly empty of children.

The village playground is small and geared toward young children. The members-only tennis courts are great, but if your children don't play tennis, of limited interest.

Since the village meeting, I find myself looking down at the Winchfield imagining a surface area that my children could have safely learnt to ride their bikes on, an area they could have practised their running skills.

I imagine seeing mothers with toddlers, grandparents with pushchairs and people, other than just dog walkers, using this vast open unused space.

The proposed track is just two large footpaces wide (1.8metres). I understand the proposition includes colour coating green to blend with the grass. The proposals include picnic tables and bench seating to ensure all ages can take advantage of the facilities.

A group of village residents have been prepared to give up much of their own time to apply for funding and grants to try and facilitate this exciting project on behalf of families like us. We hope they know how much this family appreciates their efforts.

Just like the writer in last week's GEM, the proposed track would run right past our garden boundary. If it is completed, we would be able to see and clearly hear, children at play, families enjoying activities on the track.

The Winchfield would no longer be a vast empty space of grass, it would be the centre of the village, a place where children can learn to cycle safely, a place to run and have fun.

Working adults can run at dusk without the concern of passing cars. Mothers can bring baby in the buggy. Those with mobility problems would be able to access the field/play area for the first time.

Yes, our family are wholeheartedly supporting this great initiative and dearly hope many other families will feel the same.

(Name and address supplied)

Please support the Poppy Appeal

POPPIES will be available in shops, pubs and council offices from October 26 and there will be collectors on the High Street on October 31 and November 7.

The total raised last year from comparable collections was £4,748. May I again use your columns in The GEM to invite your readers to give generously when they obtain their poppies.

Even though we are living in times of financial constraint, let us aim to raise £5,000 this year to demonstrate support for our servicemen and women, especially given the situation in Afghanistan.

Poppy wreaths have been ordered for organisations participating in the civic ceremony on Remembrance Sunday.

Individuals wishing to order one are invited to contact me by telephone on 01446 775627.

I should also welcome a call from anyone willing to help with the Saturday collections on the High Street.

Len Taylor, Cowbridge
(For the Hon Poppy Appeal organiser)

Painting lesson

TODAY (October 8) at 7pm in Old Hall, botanical painter Gillian Griffiths will be giving a demonstration to Cowbridge Art Society.

The workshop planned for October 10 has had to be cancelled because of illness of the speaker.

On october 15 at 7pm in Old Hall, High Street, the society is holding a practical evening.

Non-members welcome at either function.

TOWN LADIES GIVE A £200 LIFT TO THE MACMILLAN CHARITY

RIGHT: The members of the Cowbridge-based LIFT self-help group held a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan recently at Caer Castell, Porth-y-Green Close. The Mayoress, Mrs Vi Harris attended, and the event raised more than £200.

NEWS FROM THE LLANHARI PRIMARY SCHOOL

Breakfast club is a winner with pupils!

Breakfast Club

THERE was a promising start to our breakfast club this week with a total of 59 breakfasts being served.

Following their healthy breakfast the children get the chance to play games in the hall.

Morgan Parsons in Year-5 sums up his feelings about Breakfast Club with just one word – "awesome!" – but you don't have to take his word for it, come along and see for yourselves.

Remember you must register your child at least one week in advance of their first attendance. Registration forms are available from the office.

PE Kit

THE PE timetable for this year has now been scheduled and pupils are aware which days they need to bring their kits.

Please could all children have black sport shorts and plain white T-shirts for these lessons. This is essential for children to properly take part in P.E. They are also cheaper to buy – available at ASDA and Tesco.

Sports Day

WHO would have thought that we would have better luck with the weather when holding our annual Sports Day in September rather than July?

It was a glorious day –parent support was amazing and the children took part in fine spirits, well done to all of you.

Many thanks to our Parent Association who raised more than £300 on the day and, of course, sincere thanks to all of you for coming along to support your child and our school.

Donations on the day were also greatly appreciated.

Particularly enjoyable was the fantastic sponge cake, bearing the Llanhari School logo, donated by newcomers Lenni and her mum – put a couple of cakes like that at the finishing line next year and we might just see the teachers race!

School trips

THE school is in the process of organising a number of trips for the children to enhance their learning and enjoyment of school.

We are very aware of the expense of such trips and always work hard to keep the prices at a minimum.

More often than not, the trips are run at a loss and the school happily contributes part of the costs.

However, if the school does not receive enough money, the trips will have to be cancelled.

Forthcoming trips include: November 26, St Fagans – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. December 21, Porthcawl Christmas Panto – whole school.

Merit Awards

THE Merit Awards were issued to the following pupils:

Dione Blanch, Class 6, Caitlin Langstone, Class 5, Kallum McGowan, Class 4, Sadie Kemp, Class 3, Lenni Price, Class 2 and Ashley Lewis, Class 1.

TELL US ALL ABOUT IT!
We welcome your local news reports and other itmes of community interest. Email us at ggem@internet-today.co.uk or contact us by post: Glamorgan GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL

Cowbridge Ballet School celebrates 40th 'birthday' with *'outstanding results'*

PUPILS at the Moya Vahey School of Russian Classical Dance in Cowbridge, who are drawn from right across the Vale, achieved outstanding results in their recent legat foundation examinations.

Eighteen-year-old Kim Hooper has been awarded honours with distinction in the advanced ballet examination and has now gone to study dance at Surrey University.

Rachel Brooke-Bent also gained honours with distinction at grade III.

The following pupils gained honours: Carys Mitchell, Bethan Lang-Thomas, Sadie Kemp, Mali Rees, Rachel Nicholas, Chloe Steinhauer, Erin McLoughlin, Emily Morgan, Arthur Jones, Megan Pritchard, Bridget Lloyd James, Eve Bird, Josephine Corkill, Sophie Jones, Erin James, Alys Cleverley, Morwenna Brown, Isaac St John Griffiths, Llewellyn Brown, Kathryn Rees, Flora Lloyd James, Tegan Cecil, Miriam Bennett and Marla Ellis.

A spokeswoman said: "These wonderful results are particularly pleasing, since the school is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.

"An anniversary performance will be held on Sunday, November 22 in Barry Memorial Hall at 2pm and it is hoped the proceeds will add to the thousands raised by the school for Cancer Research Wales over the years.

Kim Hooper.

"November's special concert will feature several ex-pupils who are now professional dancers as well as - of course - the stars of the future. It is certainly not to be missed by anyone with an interest in dance.

For further information and tickets, contact Mrs Vahey on 01446 774080.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

Community council

AT the Llangan Community council meeting held on October 5, PC Mellor, who ha attended the September council meeting, reported that he had requested builders of the new estate near the bridge in Treoes to refrain from parking their vehicles in close proximity to it.

Speeding traffic – It seems incredible in view of complaints by residents of Treoes over many years about traffic speeding through the village, that a recent survey showed that, over 30 minutes, 23 cars had travelled through – but none over the speed limit.

A recent survey was carried out by PC Mellor regarding speeding traffic along the Pencoed-Pentremeurig Road. PC Mellor visited the area with his hand held camera and out of 50 cars, only one vehicle exceeded the speed limit at 35mph.

He will continue to monitor the area.

Planning application – Planning has been refused for a change of use of land to provide machinery training facilities and siting of three portacabins at Cae Cefn Uchaf, Pantruthyn.

Planning consent: Conversion and extension to outbuilding to rear of Willow Cottage to form residential property Star Inn, Treoes.

Planning consent: Proposed new extension to cattle housing building at Ruthin Fawr Farm, St Mary Hill.

Full planning consent for single storey extension to house disabled toilet at Llangan and St Mary Hill Community Hall.

Ruthin Chapel – Councillors are still waiting for news regarding the chapel.

But unto you that fear my name shall the sun of righteousness arise with the healing in his wings
MALACHI CH4 V2 *(Cowbridge Christian Fellowship)*

Buy one drama, get one free at Peterston!

PETERSTON Youth Drama held a 'Plays and Supper' evening on Saturday, September 19, when the group presented two short one-act plays.

One was based on Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* by W Sinter, and the other on the Victorian demon barber *Sweeney Todd* by C Blyton.

The large audience thoroughly enjoyed the performances, which were helped along by narrators, singers and the organist James Bull.

ABOVE and LEFT: The cast in Romeo and Juliet costume, with the production team (seated front).

BELOW: The cast in costume for the Victorian melodrama Sweeney Todd.

PHOTOGRAPHS by IAN DIXON

ABOVE: Sweeney's daughter, who is the ward of the evil Judge Turpin.

ABOVE: Sweeney promises a customer a close shave.

BELOW: Sweeney is angry!

ABOVE: Mrs Lovett refines her pie recipe.

Children in for a treat at Cowbridge Food Festival

THIS year's Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival promises something for every-one.

There will be cheese and champagne stalls for the sophisticated visitor; ice-cream makers and chocolate fountains for those with a sweet tooth; and local fruit and veg suppliers for the healthier among us. They also cater for a host of dietary requirements, with stalls selling gluten free and diabetic produce.

The children aren't forgotten either, and have plenty to keep them entertained, including face painters, balloon artists and street performers.

The highlight of the kids' calendar, however, will be the competitions taking place over the weekend. Saturday will host the cake-decorating contest for creative youngsters to display their sugar craft skills. Budding Jane Ashers can bring along their cakes and decorate for the chance to win a gift voucher, donated by the competition sponsor The Cowbridge GEM.

Sunday will get the children in the mood for Halloween with a pumpkin carving competition.

For competitive adults who want a slice of the action, the food and drink festival is offering a taste test, quizzing wannabe-connoisseurs on their food knowledge.

The Living Café will be challenging visitors to identify the ingredients in a variety of vegetarian and meat dishes to see who really knows their food.

John Davies, chairman of the Cowbridge Food Festival said: "We always provide a variety of activities for adults and children alike – and this year is no exception. The competitions add an exciting element to the festival and encourage the children to learn new skills.

"The Living Café's taste challenge is a lighthearted and fun event for people to see if they really know as much about food as they think – and enjoy some quality dishes at the same time."

The Cowbridge Food and Drink festival is now in its sixth year, and takes places on October 24 - 25, with more than 75 exhibitors.

For more information visit *www.cowbridgefoodanddrink.org*

Who will take good care of Cowbridge's red phone box?

VILLAGERS in Llanblethian are being asked to take over responsibility for the upkeep of the red telephone kiosk.

BT has informed Cowbridge Town Council that the traditional red kiosk, which is a Grade 2 listed structure, is not being used sufficiently to continue the service.

BT is inviting the local community to take ownership of the kiosk, minus the telephone service, or alternatively, it is possible to subsidise the kiosk and keep it going.

The kiosk cannot be moved unless listed building consent is obtained from the Vale Council and CADW.

The council has agreed to place a notice in the Church Hall opposite and in the porch of the church asking members of the community to come forward.

Coun Marian Arnold said that a lot of people want to keep this and preserve it for the future.

"I feel that an organisations should take over this responsibility." she said. "After all, we want this preserved for posterity. If an individual takes it over, what happens if they move?

"I think that the history society could consider this. If things came to a crunch, we could become the owners and get members living nearby to look after it."

Coun Sue Cox said that this was a listed structure and if it came to the crunch, BT could be forced to look after it. She said that the council should not do it.

"They are asking for a public spirited person to do this. Perhaps there is a group of people that would be interested."

'REFUSE COLLECTORS WON'T WALK ACROSS GREEN, GREEN GRASS OF CLOSE,' CLAIMS A BOVERTON RESIDENT

by TIM CHAPMAN

A BOVERTON householder claims council refuse collectors have failed to pick up rubbish from houses in his road because the lorry can't make its way past parked cars – and they won't walk across a green to pick up the bags.

Mr Neil Jones told The GEM: "For the last eight weeks, numbers 6 to 18b in Leigh Close, Boverton, have not been having their rubbish collected properly.

"Cars are parked around a green in Leigh Close and the lorry can't get past them so our rubbish is not being taken away.

"I understand that they are not allowed to take their wagon over the grass now, but they are capable of walking across it to pick up the bags.

"It is very aggravating,because we're meant to put the rubbish out before 7.30am, and then it doesn't go."

Mr Jones said they tended to come back on Fridays after they had received complaints from residents, although this week they went back on Monday afternoon.

He added that he had been in touch with the council two weeks ago, and had been told a superintendent would be in touch, but he had heard nothing. Other neighbours had also phoned up the council in frustration.

Mr Jones added: "I can't believe there are not more difficult places than Leigh Close where they collect rubbish from!"

The operational manager (waste management and cleansing) for the Vale Council, Clifford Parish, responded:

"Leigh Close is just one example where the council's refuse and recycling collection service is faced with increased difficulties in gaining safe access to some streets.

"The council, while having a duty to collect household waste, cannot simply push past cars or instruct staff to carry out vehicle manoeuvres that may endanger the public or property.

"I can only support my operational staff where their 'on-the-spot' risk assessments show access to be inappropriate.

"Clearly we do not ignore a householder's need to the service and, in these circumstances, an alternative vehicle is redirected from scheduled work for the collections."

Mr Parish explained: "Arrangements are in place for a same day (Monday) alternative collection in Leigh Close but, due to unforeseen operational difficulties, this wasn't possible until the Friday of one week.

"However, in normal circumstances, we have collected residents' refuse, including 6 to 18b, where it is still out for collection each Monday.

"I can only apologise to Mr Jones and his neighbours for this service disruption and particularly that he was not contacted by staff.

"This is unacceptable, and will be investigated to ensure that customer enquiries are addressed effectively.

"I would be happy to discuss the matter with him should he wish to contact me directly."

Mr Parish added: "I can assure residents that every effort is made to provide an effective and appropriate service on the scheduled day of collection, or take the necessary action to inform them when this is not possible."

Vale Council looks at who should own its housing stock

VALE councillors are being asked next Wednesday to decide whether or not to ballot council tenants on transferring all its housing stock to another landlord.

The cabinet is recommending that a ballot takes place and preliminary consultation letters have gone out to tenants.

The council has been looking at whether or not it could bring its houses up to the minimum standard expected by the Welsh Assembly Government and whether this would represent the best deal for tenants.

There are currently 3.926 properties on the Vale Council's books.

The alternative landlord is not being specified at this point but other councils such as Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) set up housing associations to take over the stock.

Tony Jacques, head of housing, told The GEM that the work involved in staging a ballot was considerable.

He said: "It involves detailed discussions with the Welsh Assembly Government. Any pre-ballot process would involve a series of consultation events and roadshows for tenants across the Vale."

The involvement of the Welsh Assembly is crucial. In the case of BCBC, the Assembly granted the council £48 million which, in effect, wiped out existing debts incurred building council properties.

The theory behind the deal was that, instead of using rent money to service the outstanding £48 million debt, all the rent would be available for council house repairs and new building.

As a result, BCBC set up a new housing association, Valleys to Coast (V2C), which continues to manage former council properties, and which is free to find funding for new build projects.

Bodies such as V2C are generally referred to as Registered Social Landlords (RSLs).

Back in the Vale, the council's own consultants have said: ".. there will be no advantage to the council on stock transfer unless there is a commitment from WAG to the payment of gap funding (dowry) to enable the new RSL to regenerate some of its stock and to improve its general estate environments."

NEWS FROM THE FONMON APIARY

NOW is the time of the year when the control (chemical) of Varroa Mite can be undertaken.

Throughout the year, the population of the hive has increased, and the mite infestation has kept pace with it.

Observing mites on the bees is very difficult, it is only when a mite dies or falls from a bee into the collecting drawer beneath the mesh floor, that you can fully observe it/them.

The Varroa is an external parasitic mite of the honey bee. Adult females are reddish-brown in colour, and have a flat button shape.

They are 1.7mm long and 1.5-2mm in width and have eight legs. The male is much smaller and paler, making it much more difficult, if not impossible, to see.

Nurse bees are more often than not the preferred host of the mite. This is because they are constantly in touch with the developing eggs and larvae.

The reproductive cycle of the honeybee/mite begins thus: An egg is laid by the queen bee, in three days it hatches into a grub; for the next eight days it is fed by the nurse bees, and it develops rapidly.

After the eight day, the nurse bees deposit food at the base of the cell prior to it being sealed with a capping of wax. The grub is now left to go through a period of metamorphosis, before emerging as an active bee ready to do its bit within the hive, and eventually as a forager outside of the hive.

However, the Varroa female must receive some form of chemical signal informing her that the depositing of larval food is about to ensue.

She (or they, as two or three mites often go in) leave the nurse bee, and site themselves at the base of the cell whereupon they are cocooned by the larval food, and are only released as the food is consumed by the grub.

Once this occurs, the breeding cycle of the mite can begin. A feeding site at the rear end of the grub's body is selected, and the breeding female and subsequent hatchlings all feed upon the grub's body fluids from this site.

The first of some four or five eggs is laid, and this is always a male; he then mates with his mother. All the following eggs produce females who in their turn, are mated by their brother (he came from the first egg).

The mites are careful not to kill the bee as they are totally dependent on it being able to chew its way out of the cell on completion of its metamorphosis.

An assortment of viruses are also carried by the Varroa Mite, and these in their turn also attack the developing bee, adding to its woes.

The health and sustainability of the hive is under serious threat, and the chemicals being used are our only serious means of mite control.

As promised, here are the mite counts taken over several 10-day period this year from one hive, before any treatment was undertaken: 2,000; 3,410; 5,867; 2,881.

Now that treatment is under way, next month's figures will certainly be higher.

HAROLD WILLIAMS

Very special kayaking club is launched at Cosmeston

A NEW kayaking club for people with learning difficulties has been set up, with monthly sessions at Cosmeston, by Special Olympics Wales, with help from a £850 Community Chest grant.

The kayaking club organisers hope to set up a weekly Special Olympics kayaking club in the Vale for all-year-round training and competitions.

Anyone aged over eight with a learning disability, and their families, can attend the new three-hour sessions, which cost £5 per person.

The Vale Council cabinet member for leisure and tourism, Coun Anthony Ernest, said: "This kayaking club is an extremely exciting new opportunity for people with learning disabilities to try a sport that they are completely new to, or continue to develop their ability."

A new kayaking club for people with learning difficulties, and their families, has been launched at Cosmeston Lakes Country Park.

Size isn't everything – except at the Llanharry Vegetable Show!

ABOVE:
'We're lost in a giant cabbage forest'.

All of the above photographs were taken at the annual Llanharry Giant Vegetable Show and – as can clearly be seen – it is always a show that measures up to its publicity!

Photos by MANDY THOMAS
(Available for purchase, telephone 07974 518347)
These and other pictures of the event can be viewed on
www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk

COWBRIDGE JUNIOR RUGBY ROUND-UP

A victorious weekend for the juniors – apart from Pentyrch!

Under-8 v St Albans

ST ALBANS arrived at Cowbridge for the first home game of the season.

They were very willing to play lots of rugby and, since Cowbridge had 16 players, they agreed to play two games.

In the first half, Cowbridge scored four long-range tries which left the scorers and parents out of breath. For the second half, the team was switched to allow all players match time.

St Albans fought back well and scored a well-deserved try, responded to by another long-range effort from Cowbridge.

In the second match, Cowbridge put the pressure on again and, after some great tagging, the home team pressed home the advantage by scoring five tries to one.

The coaches were once again impressed by the progress that the whole team are making.

Try scorers: Jamie Howells (three), Tomos apjohn-Williams (two), Theo Bancroft, Huw Jones, Miles Thomas, Max Pedicombe, Jacob Williams.

Squad: Jamie Howells, Oliver Bluck, Jac Burne, Ioan Davies, Angus Henderson, Elis Howells, Tomos apjohn-Williams, Rory James, Joshua John, Huw Jones, Lewis Jones, Jamie Owen, Max Pedicombe, Miles Thomas, Edward Thomas, Jack Tudor, Rhodri Vickers.

Under-9s v St Albans

THE first home fixture of the season saw the under-9s play host to St Albans.

Expectations were high for further improvement, given the boys' recent form. However, although they managed to secure a 7-2 victory, this was a below-par performance and the coaching staff identified areas for improvement.

Many thanks to the St Albans boys, who have not been together very long but gave their all throughout.

Try scorers: Ioan Williams, Harry Edwards, Jack Dixon, Barney, Ben Jones, Bart Norton.

Squad: Ioan Williams, Bart Norton, Ben Jones, Ben Batten, Luke Martyn, Will Tuckwell, Lewis Hawke, Harry Edwards, Barney, Gabriel, Joseph, Will Jones, Jack Dixon.

Under-10s v Pentyrch and Barry

ONCE again, Cowbridge were on the road for a hastily-arranged fixture against Pentyrch and Barry.

The first action of the day was against the hosts. Pentyrch kicked off, the ball was knocked on and this set the tone for the day. Up against an extremely well-drilled outfit, Cowbridge were struggling to match their opposite numbers.

Pentyrch were enjoying all the early possession and soon took the lead with a well-worked try. The pattern continued and by the half-time whistle, the hosts had added a further score for a 14-0 lead.

The Cowbridge boys improved in the second half, but with the telltale sign of the half-backs making constant tackles, the backs were starved of any quality ball.

Max Lucas and Jake Griffiths were competing well up front, but the Pentyrch forwards continued to dominate.

Subsequently, with the last play of the game, they extended the lead for a full time score of Pentyrch 21 Cowbridge 0.

While a number of boys looked good with the ball in hand, the game was lost at the break down and tackle area.

The number of missed tackles is a concern and something to address for the rest of the season. In saying that, the tackling from Ioan Lewis and Rhys Bradshaw was outstanding.

The second match saw Cowbridge and Pentyrch field the remaining squad members. Cowbridge were hopeful they could continue their excellent form from previous matches. However, they would be guilty of the same errors as the first team and it would prove to be a long afternoon.

Pentyrch once again were dominant in all aspects of play, and it came as no surprise when they opened the scoring. Cowbridge were second best up front and the host's half-backs were enjoying the freedom of the park.

The scores continued to come and by half-time Pentyrch held a 26-0 lead.

The second half saw an improvement from Cowbridge, and Max Cunnington reduced the arrears with a tremendous burst to the line. Liam Murphy added the conversion to make the score 26-7. Angus James was superb in defence and made several last-ditch try-saving tackles.

Despite their best efforts, Cowbridge could not trouble the scorer further and the final whistle blew for a 38-7 victory to Pentyrch.

Cowbridge then mixed the sides up for the game against Barry. This would prove to be a rather one-sided affair, as the Cowbridge boys dominated all aspects of play.

Rhys Bradshaw set up the opening score with a mazy run before releasing Elliot Bancroft for the opening score. Bradshaw added the conversion before adding a brace of tries himself, and with conversions from Max Lucas and Angus James the half-time score was 21-0.

The second half saw a complete change in personnel but the scores continued. James Morris flopped over for the opener with Jake Griffiths converting.

The pressure was relentless and Sam Corkill extended the lead, with Ioan Lewis converting.

The final try of the match saw Dan Taylor make a superb burst up the blind side and Evan Williams added the two for a final score of Cowbridge 42 Barry 0.

Squad: Angus James, Dan Marshall, Dan Taylor, Elliot Bancroft, Evan Williams, Ioan Lewis, Jake Griffiths, James Guard, James Morris, Liam Murphy, Max Cunnington, Max Lucas, Oliver Reynolds, Patrick Sheppard, Rhys Bradshaw, Rhys Davies, Sam Corkill, Tom Jose, William Rees Davies.

Cowbridge club enjoys local karate tournament

COWBRIDGE Karate Club recently took part in a tournament held at Channel View Leisure Centre in Cardiff.

Back row left to right:
James Thompson, Alex Jones, Patrick Croysdale, Tim Goodman, Fred Bisson, Danny Price, Hatim Shami, Jack McCaver, Arthur Blick.
Front left to right:
Lowri Thomas, Leri Francis, Joel Hill, Harvey Stacey.

Cowbridge was represented by a 13-strong contingent from its thriving junior section. There were more than 10 clubs and four organisations there, including Welsh Karate Jutsu Kai, Wado-Kai and Shotokan.

Sensei Roger Nevens (4th Dan) was a referee and Senseis Ian and Roland Sime (both 3rd Dan) were on coaching duty.

The Kata competition started proceedings and Fred Bisson (1st Kyu) came away with an outstanding first place in the under-16 category.

Tim Goodman (2nd Kyu) took third place in the under-14 category with a typically powerful performance.

Lowrie Thomas took second place in the under-12s and Harvey Stacey took second in the under-10s.

In the Kumite (fighting), Fred Bisson once again outclassed the opposition to take first place in the under-16s. Danny Price (2nd Kyu) came through a tightly-contested semi-final against Tim Goodman to take second place in the under-14s High Grades, with Tim Goodman and James Thompson (3rd Kyu) sharing third spot.

Cowbridge then produced a full house with Arthur Blick, Alex Jones (both 6th Kyu) and Hatim Shami (7th Kyu) taking first, second and third places respectively in the under-14s Low Grades category.

Lowrie Thomas was placed third in the under-12s and Harvey Stacey came third in the under-10s.

The club's success is especially notable because, unlike many other clubs, Cowbridge Jutsu Kai does not train specifically for competitions or tournaments.

However the students found the experience so rewarding and enjoyable that there are now plans to take part more regularly in tournaments.

Junior classes are held at Cowbridge Leisure Centre between 6pm-7pm on Mondays and Fridays - www.ckjk.co.uk

Cowbridge Ladies struggle against Dolgellau opponents

LAST Sunday saw Dolgellau make the long journey south with only 13 players, which Cowbridge had to match, for what turned out to be a fast-paced game of rugby.

Cowbridge Ladies started the stronger, with the front row of Eleanor Bram, Charlie Willis and Gemma Harding being dominant in the scrum.

The forwards provided the backs with some excellent possession, and Anna Jenkins at 10, Alexis Walker at 12 and Katie O'Neill at 13 took full advantage.

Anna Jenkins got Cowbridge off to an outstanding start in the opening minutes of the match, demonstrating quick feet and good strength to take the first try.

Dolgellau had a phase of play, which they took full advantage of, and some missed tackles by the Cowbridge team led to them going over the line for their first try of the game, followed by the conversion.

Cowbridge, on the attack, produced some outstanding rugby, with great inter-play and a final pass by Hannah Hughes to teammate Kath Criger, who put the ball over the line for another try for the home team.

Injury to Dolgellau's front row resulted in uncontested scrums, which was to the detriment of the Cowbridge ladies, who have worked hard on their scrumaging technique in recent weeks and the game opened up as a consequence.

Captain Rebecca Porter attempted to rally the troops with some inspirational words, together with some barnstorming runs, but the final pass was not quite going to hand.

For Cowbridge, Amy Jones, Delyth Powell, scrum-half Suzy Gluck and Lucy Llewellyn at full-back tried their utmost to get 'go forward ball' but their attempts were in vain against a strong Dolgellau team.

Injuries that led to the absence of Anna and Alexis, two key Cowbridge players, were definitely notable, but nevertheless the Cowbridge pack kept their heads high and fought to the bitter end.

Substitutions were coming thick and fast for Cowbridge as Dolgellau were running away with the game. Nikki Stallard, Jess Dawkes, Leanne Ellis and Phillipa Kinsella added their much-needed energy and enthusiasm to an otherwise injury-ridden Cowbridge team.

The final score was 53-10 to Dolgellau.

The Ladies will playing at home again this week (October 11) against Amman United, a new team to the league this year.

Kick-off is at 2.30pm and all support is most welcome and appreciated.

NS/HL

Cowbridge's Bryan lifts the high-altitude farmers' cup

COWBRIDGE resident Bryan Owen, with 36 points, won the Arthur John & Co Cup at the recent monthly meeting of The Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society.

The tournament was played at the mountain top Neath golf course which boasts splendid views from most of the fairways.

Trevor Wooding, with 33 points finished second, and Chris Rooney, also with 33 points but with an inferior back nine, finished third.

Leading the guest section were Brecon-based David Jones who scored 32 points, and second-placed Robert James, who scored 29 points.

ABOVE: Bryan Owen.

Nearest the pin on the par three holes were Neil McLean, Tony McCarthy, Griff Morgan and overall winner Bryan Owen.

Society president Geraint Davies hit the longest drive on the selected hole.

Bryan Owen completed an excellent day when correctly guessing 43 golf balls would remain at more than 1,000 feet above sea level, which also raised £72 for the MacMillan Nurses.

All prize winners were rewarded with excellent prizes presented by the day's generous sponsor, Mr Dai John.

The next meeting for society members will be on Thursday, October 29 at Machynys Golf Club, sponsored by the Cowbridge and Laleston offices of the NFU Mutual

TMcC

Llantwit Youth overcome conditions (and Nantymoel)

LLANTWIT MAJOR Youth welcomed Nantymoel on Saturday, with Llantwit playing a development team.

They started very well playing down the hill, and were awarded an early penalty, converted by Ryan Evans to lead 3-0.

Llantwit continued to apply more pressure and, after taking a scrum against the head, the ball was passed out quickly leaving Matt Roberts to burst through the defensive line to cross for his first try, converted by Ryan Evans.

Nantymoel responded with some pressure of their own. However, they were struggling to get out of their half and with some constant pressure from Llantwit the ball was turned over.

After some slick passing, the ball finally got to Matt Roberts and he crossed for his second try of game, converted by Tom Silva.

Llantwit then went back on the attack again, and some quick ball passed through their hands and Nantymoel drifted offside.

Ryan Evans struck a penalty and Llantwit led by 20-0.

In the second and half Llantwit, playing up the hill and against the wind, were put under early pressure.

With a great breakout from their own 22-metre line, Tom Silva sprinted clear to score in the corner.

Llantwit were then on the back foot for the rest of the match but excellent tackling kept Nantymoel out until the last five minutes, when they broke the line to score their only try of the game, which was converted.

Final score: 25-7. Man-of-the-match was stand in captain Ryan Evans.

MP

LOCAL PEOPLE GIVE THE CREMATORIUM THUMBS UP

by TIM CHAPMAN

IN a snap poll conducted by The GEM to gauge the temperature of public opinion on the new crematorium in Barry, people gave it unanimous backing – subject to traffic being managed correctly.

All the people The GEM spoke to, including some who lived along the Port Road, said that the planned facility would benefit the town.

A number of people pointed out that a crematorium, while welcome, would have to have carefully managed access.

The GEM understands that the entrance to the new crematorium will be half way between Pencoedtre Lane and the roundabout at the top of the Docks Link Road, on the other side of the road.

Mr Ross Jeynes, who lives on Port Road East, said: "I have no objection – it doesn't bother me at all.

"I have had to go to funerals in Bridgend and Thornhill; it will certainly be convenient for people in Barry.

"If people are not close family or friends they might attend at a church in Barry, but not go all the way into Cardiff or Bridgend; having a crematorium in Barry will make it easier for people to go."

Mr Jeynes said that the safe flow of traffic to the crematorium would have to be a prime consideration because of how busy the Port Road could be.

Mrs Joanne Lambert, who lives on the Treharne Estate, picked up on the same theme.

She travels along the Port Road regularly and said: "It is good to have the facility. People don't want to have to go to Bridgend and Cardiff.

"They will have to manage access to it carefully. The speed limit along there is currently 50mph, perhaps they will have to reduce it along that stretch."

Mr John Lane, another Port Road resident, said: "It will be a benefit to Barry. I don't think it is intrusive."

Mr Lane added that he believed the "pluses outweighed the minuses" – as long as the traffic was managed properly.

"A good new facility for Barry" – that was Mrs Pat Giles' verdict.

Mrs Giles of Dyffren Place in the town explained why she was in favour of it: "Bridgend and Thornhill are a bit out of the way and not everyone has got their own transport.

"If you are planning to go by bus, it can involve a change of bus on the way too."

She said that she had had to go to Thornhill in the rush-hour one day and it had taken a long time to get there, adding: "I think the crematorium will need a roundabout to get into it."

Her sister-in-law, Mrs Shiela Giles, said: "I think having a crematorium locally is a good idea, and will save families from Barry having to travel."

Mrs Margaret Collins, who lives in St Mellons, but was visiting friends in Barry for the day, saw a benefit for Cardiff in the town have a crematorium.

She explained: "It is very busy up at Thornhill Crematorium, and it will reduce the amount of traffic it has to cope with."

Mrs Bernardine Rees, who lives in Barry, said: "In the past I have travelled to Thornhill and Bridgend. I think it is a very good idea to have a crematorium nearer to home."

Last week The GEM reported how Mr Simon Cox, who owns South Wales Golf Centre, was closing the centre after 24 years because the lease was not being renewed and the crematorium was going to be built there.

Mr John Williams, who also responded to our vox pop, said: "It is a shame for Simon (Cox) and his business, but it will save people travelling."

Mr John James, a partner at funeral directors, W James & Son in Rhoose, said because of its proximity to Barry it would be convenient for people in the town to use, but also made the point that people in other areas of the Vale were used to going to Coychurch for cremations.

He said: "It may take a while for it to build up – I work in St Athan and Llantwit Major and a lot of people are accustomed to dealing with Coychurch.

"If people already have family links to a crematorium that is where they might continue to go."

Mr James added that when his father was running W James & Son in the 1970s and Coychurch was opened, it took a while to catch on because people were used to going to Thornhill, or Glyntaff at Pontypridd.

Vox pops are not scientific surveys, just interesting snapshots of local opinion. Doubtless there are other people with different ideas, but on this occasion everyone The GEM approached, with one or two qualifications, thought Barry would benefit from the crematorium.

'Planning committee has let down local residents'

HAVING attended the Defence Training College (DTC) and Aerospace Business Park (ABP) meeting last week, I am absolutely disgusted with the manner in which the Vale's planning committee totally disregarded more than 2,000 petition signatures, some 140 individual letters of objections and major concerns expressed by a number of Assembly Members.

The committee voted overwhelmingly in favour of both schemes, despite being fully aware of major concerns regarding the Northern Access Road (and the suitability of the existing roads which will serve it), the use of greenfield sites for housing, the firing range and field training areas, etc.

It was left to Couns Gwyn John and Nic Hodges to voice the concerns of St Athan and Llantwit residents.

Unfortunately, the chairman of the planning committee, Jeffrey James, made it perfectly clear to the entire committee, that they should favour both schemes and this was reflected in their vote. His summing up couldn't have been more biased if Metrix had written it for him!

Funding for the DTC will not be decided until after the next general election, so there was no need to rush this through planning.

The planning department could easily have taken the public's objections on board, recommended amendments and then considered a re-application.

Instead, they approved the scheme as a whole, which is designed totally for the convenience of the developer and with no thought for the impacts on local communities.

The £ signs before their eyes affected their judgement as they sought to make a nest for a golden goose which has yet to prove fertile.

Simon Bailey,
St Athan

If readers have a view on this, write to the GEM at the address on page 2.

Residents jailed

MAGISTRATES at Barry have imposed prison sentences on four Vale residents found guilty of failing to pay council tax.

Michael Hopkins, of Glyndwr Avenue, St Athan, John Lewis, of Ceri Avenue, Rhoose, Barbara Robinson, of Amherst Crescent, Barry Island, and Jayne Waddon, of Burton Terrace, East Aberthaw, none of whom appeared, were sentenced to 46, 31, 26 and 45 days respectively.

All four had previously received prison terms which were suspended, subject to outstanding money being repaid.

A Vale Council spokesman said: "Every opportunity has been given to the defendants to provide reasons for non-payment and the court has decided to activate the suspended sentences with immediate effect.

"The council will continue to bring persistent council tax defaulters to court and seek custodial sentences, in order to ensure payment for essential local services."

Anyone in genuine difficulty with the payment of council tax, should contact the collection office on 01446 709564 to discuss payment.

He added that, through the council tax benefit scheme, reductions were available for persons on low income.

Further information could be obtained from the benefits section on 01446 709244.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ST BRIDES MAJOR

Your local correspondent is Patricia Bevan-Morgan (01656) 880418

Harvest festivals

THE season of harvest festivals is now in full swing and local churches throughout the area have been taking part in the occasion.

On Sunday, September 27, St Bridget's Church was beautifully decorated, together with the traditional 'sheaf of corn' bread. This bread was later shared and eaten at the harvest lunch served at the church hall, St Brides Major.

During the service at the church, the local primary schoolchildren took an active part.

All Saints Church, Southerndown, held its first harvest festival service and thanks go to the ladies for the beautiful decorations and for the good food for the harvest supper following the service.

Ewenny Priory Church held their harvest festival on September 29 to coincide with the 10th anniversary of the restoration of the Priory church.

The special envelopes for the harvest services collection will be given to the Bridgend food bank run by the churches in Bridgend to provide emergency food parcels to those in need, homeless etc. Recipients will be nominated by social workers, GPs, etc.

WICK CHAPEL held their harvest service on Sunday, September 27, and though few in number, the traditional harvest hymns were sung with gusto.

After the service, gifts of fruit etc were given to the congregation. The minister, Jullianne, gave everyone some crocus bulbs to plant to mark the occasion of the growing of crops.

On Tuesday, a memorial service took place in the chapel graveyard when a memorial seat was dedicated to the memory of Allan Jones who had served in the Army and died aged 51. He had attended chapel and Sunday school in Wick Chapel.

Watermill talk

OGMORE Retired Residents met at The Watermill to listen to Allan Underhill tell of the origins of the big stores in London.

An interesting afternoon. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, October 15.

Thursday club

LADIES Thursday Club enjoyed a 'Tour of London' when Adrian Warner came along with slides he had taken of some of the historic as well as the well-known London features.

A mystery

VILLAGERS of St Brides Major awoke on Wednesday, October 1 to a covering of a mysterious white 'dust' all over the village.

It is hoped authorities in the Vale can throw some light on the subject as many complaints have been made.

St Brides council

THE St Brides Major Community Council met at the church hall on Monday, September 14.

It was noted that a further resignation had been received for the St Brides Major ward quarry liaison committee. Mr Clive Millman has been co-opted to represent the village on this committee.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the next community council meeting scheduled for Monday, October 12, will now take place on Monday, October 19 at 7pm at the church hall, St Brides Major.

Arsenal

BRIDGEND Civic Trust is unveiling a memorial to those who lost their lives during the construction and operation of Bridgend Armaments Factory (the Arsenal) on Sunday, October 25, in Dunraven Place, Bridgend.

Barrivale results

THE latest results from Barrivale Bridge Club are from session one of the Men's and Ladies' pairs:

1st, Tim Barsby and Mike Close 56.35 per cent; 2nd, Mick Green and Denis Mottram 52.08 per cent; =3rd Marjorie Morgan and Judith Owen 51.59 per cent; =3rd Eileen Hughes and Jane Brook 51.59 per cent.

Judith and Marjorie won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information, ring 01446 733425. **MB**

WRITE IN!

● *WE welcome your news, views and sports items. Please send them to the Editorial Department, The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL Email: ggem@internet-today.co.uk*

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BARRY DOCKS LINK ROAD IN NEED OF A ROUNDABOUT

ONCE again, a person has died on the Barry Docks Link Road. When are the Vale Council going to see that the road layout at Coldbrook Road, the Docks Link Road and Argae Lane is all wrong?

As far as I can see, the only way to sort this junction out is to put a roundabout on this junction. Not only will it slow traffic down, it will allow traffic from Coldbrook Road and Argae Lane time to get out onto the link road.

Many people say put traffic lights on the junction, but this would not work. You can jump traffic lights, but you can't jump a roundabout.

Mr G Thomas, Barry

Questionable standards...

WE are content to be subjected, via the European Arrest Warrant, to questionable legal systems in Romania, Bulgaria and Greece. They must all be treated as being of the same standard as our own.

Why get so excited then about being treated by an incompetent German doctor?

RH Bradshaw,
Cowbridge.

Gathering Place says thank you

WE would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported the Gathering Place Macmillan coffee morning.

We raised £110! Thanks also go to Margaret Craig who donated a giant cupcake which raised £32 in a raffle!

Deacon Michelle Legumi,
(The Gathering Place, St Athan)

THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

Workshops and art classes available in the Vale

WITH regard to the letter from Alison Kelland in last week's GEM, the Vale Council is sorry to hear that Alison was disappointed that her painting and drawing class did not run at Barry Community Learning Centre, as this class has always been very popular in the past.

However, while most of our daytime and evening classes are very full this year, particularly arts and crafts, unfortunately there were not enough enrolments for us to be able to run this particular evening class, although there are places available at other centres in the Vale.

We're pleased to report that we are running a variety of free taster workshops, including a painting and drawing session that will take place at 7pm on Tuesday, October 20, at Barry Comprehensive School.

Anyone who has an interest in improving their painting and drawing skills, is invited to come along and see for themselves, like Alison, how enjoyable and rewarding learning can be.

Perhaps there will be enough interest to enable the class to continue!

In the meantime, there will be a series of one-day Saturday workshops starting this month, including life drawing, oils and acrylics and watercolours.

These are ideal for anyone who cannot attend daytime classes.

For more information about the courses, free tasters and how to enrol, please contact our centres: Barry 01446 738054 or Palmerston 01446 733762.

David Prosser
(Head of Lifelong Learning, Vale Council)

Lyme disease warning to pet lovers...

PET owners – especially dog walkers – should be on their guard in the coming months, following some alarming findings about Lyme Disease – a painful, disabling condition which can affect both humans and animals.

Here, at PDSA, we have seen a 150 per cent increase in the number of suspected cases of this disease, which is transmitted by a tick bite, over the last three years.

Symptoms include a rash, fever, lameness and fatigue, as well as swollen lymph glands and nerve damage.

We advise pet owners to cover up when in woods or long grass – and to check their pets after walks for signs of ticks.

Owners should check the fur, using rubber gloves, as an infected tick can bite both the pet and human.

If an owner does find ticks on their pet their vet can safely remove them.

Elaine Pendlebury,
(Senior veterinary surgeon, PDSA)

Poll shows there is support for DTC

THE leader of the Plaid councillors in the Vale, Coun Nic Hodges, has yet again lost the argument on the Defence Technical College (DTC).

He lost the argument at the planning committee on this transformational project, and the GEM's online poll is showing him to be wrong about public support in the Vale for the project 'haemorrhaging'.

At the time of writing this letter, The GEM's poll shows that 60 per cent of people strongly support the project.

It beggars belief that Plaid can be so divided on this 'jewel in the crown' project, which will bring jobs and investment to the Vale.

Alana Davies,
(Labour parliamentary candidate for Vale of Glamorgan)

Exhibition: thank you

I WOULD like to thank all those people who attended the recent 'Barry and the Second World War' exhibition at Art Central in Barry.

Hundreds of visitors passed through over the two-week period and it was a pleasure to talk to local people about their memories of the period.

The comments left in the two visitors' books were most supportive and have encouraged me to suggest to the local authority that other exhibitions on a similar theme could be held in the future...

Perhaps 'Barry and the First World War' next autumn..?

I would also draw readers' attention to the exhibition being staged in the town library by the Barry branch of the Merchant Navy Association, and their campaign for a permanent setting for all the material relating to the history of Barry. Please sign their petition for a museum!

In the meantime, if any readers have any items, photographs or stories that they would like included in my future exhibitions on Barry's role in the two world wars of the last century, I can be contacted on 07708 255295 or by e-mail at: ninian27@btinternet.com.

Dr Jonathan Hicks, Barry

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AFTER 91-YEAR WAIT... MYSTERY OF UNCLE BERT'S FATE IS SOLVED

LOCAL historian and longstanding GEM contributor, ALFRED MILLS – aged 98 – tells of a chance encounter that has helped to complete his family tree

I AM one of those people who always watch *Who do you think you are?* on television and I am sometimes amazed at the coincidences that have led to information which has been revealed, and which has given pleasure to the person making the enquiry to the TV programme.

Something of that nature came my way recently when I attended the funeral of a cousin's wife in Cardiff, where I met relatives I had not ever seen or heard of up to that occasion.

My mother was a Wakefield, one of a family of eight, comprising six daughters and two sons, all born in Cardiff in the second half of the 19th century.

One son, Tom, died in Cardiff, circa 1924 and the other son, Albert (uncle Bert), as a young lad, after leaving school, became a messenger boy employed by the Post Office to deliver telegrams – long before house telephones were available.

He was soon called up to serve in the 1914-1918 war but, sadly, he never survived. The message that he had been taken prisoner was all the information that his family ever had and my mother always lamented the fact that no further information was forthcoming during her lifetime, as to how he met his sad end.

In March this year, I saw an obituary notice referring to a lady I believed was the wife (widow) of a first cousin of mine (also deceased) and I felt the urge to attend the funeral at Cardiff.

A family photograph of Uncle Bert on the back of which is stated: "Mother's brother, Bert Wakefield. Taken prisoner of war in the period 1914-1918 Never heard of afterwards." It is not known how old he was when the photograph was taken by WK Cox & Co, 199 Bute Road, Cardiff, but it is assumed that he was in his 20s.

Together with my son, we met aunts, nieces, cousins and families we had never seen before, and our presence was appreciated.

One lady cousin, now living away, was particularly pleased to see us and we learned that she has been working on the compilation of a family tree, and thus was interested to learn whether I could help in any way.

We have been in touch ever since, exchanging views photographs etc, and I mentioned Uncle Bert Wakefield and the fact that the only information received was that he was taken as a prisoner of war.

Very recently, we received by e-mail information that my lady cousin had gained through her efforts, and this e-mail included the official declaration and a photograph of Albert's last resting place.

He died on June 27, 1918, at the age of 37 (a coincidence that my birthday falls on June 26). Although the cause of his death is not given, the knowledge that his memorial stone can be seen and is well cared for, is gratifying, albeit that it is located on foreign soil.

I cannot explain why I felt so strong an urge to attend that funeral at Cardiff, but the pleasure of seeing relatives for the first time and the information regarding mother's brother, Bert, leads me to think that fate decided I should attend.

Although it is late in life for me to learn about relations I knew nothing about, one cousin is delighted that we met and succeeding correspondence has enabled her to complete the family tree.

ALFRED MILLS
(Barry)

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What's on update in brief

Rotary club Irish night

THE Rotary Club of Dinas Powys is presenting "Ireland's finest in music, song and humour" – Diarmuid O'Leary and the Bards, tomorrow (October 9), at Dinas Powys Parish Hall.

Doors open 7pm and the show starts at 8pm. *For tickets, telephone 07850 607300 (or available on the night).*

Harvest festival

SULLY Christian Fellowship is holding a harvest festival at 11am on Sunday, October 11, at the Jubilee Hall, Smithies Avenue, Sully, when Rev John James will be leading the service, and children from Sully Primary School will be taking part.

The proceeds will be given to Rainbow of Hope, a registered charity in Cardiff which provides meals for the homeless and food parcels for needy families.

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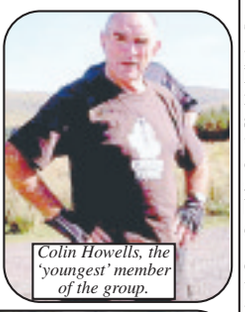
Intrepid Colwinston cyclists raise £2,500 for three local charities



Colin Howells, the 'youngest' member of the group.

RECENTLY, 14 intrepid cyclists left Colwinston at 6am heading for Taff Trail start at Brecon.

This 55-mile ride was the culmination of months of dedicated training from all the cyclists, who were sponsored by friends, family and villagers.

The three nominated charities this year were: 'Riding for the Disabled', 'Tenovus', and 'CIRCA (Crohn's in Childhood Research Association)'.

More than £2,500 was raised and will be split evenly between the charities.

The riders were a diverse group of villagers ranging in age from 65 to 20 years, and the course was completed in an amazing five hours, averaging over 10mph, on an exceptionally hot day, and more than very rocky, hilly terrain.

The organisers were Lucy Stokes and Alun Austin, who arranged the logistics of transporting the bikes, watering stops along the way, puncture repair kits, to name but a few.

All 14 arrived safely at Cardiff Bay together, a fantastic achievement.

This is the third year that this event has run, and to date, in excess of £6,000 has been raised for local charities.

JULIE LLOYD

44 WANNABES ON WAITING LIST FOR AN ALLOTMENT

THERE are 44 people on waiting lists for allotments in Cowbridge – some on the Vale waiting list and others waiting for allotments owned by the town council..

Now, Transition Cowbridge is hoping to try to resolve the shortage by working with the Vale Council and other bodies.

It has met Phil Beaman from the Vale Council to discuss allotments and see if there is any chance of increasing the number available.

Secretary Dinky Kennedy said: "Phil Beaman is sympathetic to the need for more growing space in the area. He is a keen allotment holder himself, having inherited his first allotment from his grandfather.

"He is also aware of the huge increase in "grow your own" which has swept the country over the last few years – the sale of vegetable seeds has risen by 60 per cent."

Unfortunately, suggestions by the voluntary group to create allotments on land at the river walk end of Poplars Park have been ruled out by Mr Beaman because of drainage problems and unsuitable soil.

Mrs Kennedy went on: "The difficulty of finding land for this kind of use in Cowbridge is the result of high land values.

"The council has no land which is immediately available although education sites were suggested."

This area is now being explored and two local schools are supportive of vegetable growing initiatives and are keen because of the educational value of the move.

Transition co-founder Rob McGhee said that they wanted to work with the Vale to try and resolve the problem.

"It is not going to be easy but we will be exploring all avenues," he said. "We would be interested in hearing from anyone who has land that could be used for allotments or communal growing plots.

"Similarly, we would ask everyone on the waiting lists to make themselves known to us so that we can keep in touch with developments."

The group is also progressing with plans to take over the Poplars Park woodland and plant fruit and nut trees there.

The group has discussed this with Mr Beaman, who has said that in principle he was happy to work alongside them.

Ian Nicholas, Coed Cymru officer for the Vale, has also offered to help secure funding and he will help mark trees and work with the thinning and coppicing of the woods.

Luke Millar, of Cowbridge Charter Trust, has also offered to help with the use of volunteers on the project.

Anyone who would like to help this project, should contact Mike Hancock or Nicky Foster on 01446 – 772076.

Rob McGhee can be contacted on 01446-775686 or transition-cowbridge@google-mail.com

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IN LINE FOR AN AWARD

THE Vale Council's waste management and cleansing team is celebrating reaching the final round of the National Recycling Awards within the 'Local Authority Team of the Year' category, and is now hoping that it can 'clean up' on the night!

The awards are among the most prestigious within the waste management industry and are held in London on October 27.

Operational manager for waste management and cleansing, Clifford Parish, said: "Reaching the finals of these awards is nothing more than they deserve and I will be very disappointed should they not win the overall National Best Team Award – they are simply the best."

For further guidance on the council's recycling and composting initiatives you can contact visible services by calling 029 2067 3000 or emailing visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

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Alternatively, you can write to Andrew or David at:
National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA

Andrew Davies: Email: andrewrt.davies@wales.gov.uk
Tel: 02920 898523

David Melding: Email: david.melding@wales.gov.uk
Tel: 02920 898732

'Inspirational' Alex is Blues' VIP guest

LEFT: Ysgol Erw'r Delyn pupil Alex Evans meets Cardiff Blues stars Dafydd James and Dai Flanagan, after being selected as the club's first winner of the EADS Grassroots Community Prize.

CARDIFF BLUES' recent showdown with the Scarlets was extra special for a pupil from the Ysgol Erw'r Delyn special needs school in Penarth.

Sixteen-year-old Alex Evans was the Blues' VIP guest for the Magners League derby clash, after being selected as the club's first winner of the EADS Grassroots Community Prize.

The prize is given to deserving volunteers for their work with clubs and schools across the Blues region.

Alex, who has the degenerative condition, Ataxia Telangiectasia, was nominated following the inspirational talks he has given to primary school pupils in the Vale about his love of rugby.

As an eight-year-old, Alex played one season for Beddau RFC on the wing, just like his hero Shane Williams, before his condition prevented him from taking to the field any more.

The Vale Council's rugby development officer, Matt Silva, arranged Alex's visits to local schools after being touched by the teenager's passion for the game.

Matt said: "The way that Alex gets on with his life, in spite of his condition, is an absolute inspiration.

"The presentations that he has given to children in the Vale have taught them about rugby and his enthusiasm for the sport is sure to have rubbed off on them.

"It is great that people in the community around the Blues region can be recognised by EADS' excellent award, and Alex is a very deserving winner.

"It was also nice for his father and brother, who are avid Blues supporters,to have a night out with Alex and be spoiled a bit."

As part of his prize, Alex's family were treated to luxury seats for the match, while at half-time, Alex took to the field to be presented with a signed rugby ball from Blues' stars Dafydd James and Dai Flanagan.

Alex said: "The evening was fantastic and the Blues made me feel special from the minute I arrived.

"The best part of the evening was meeting the players at half-time and after the game.

"I would like to say a big 'thank you' to Matt Silva for putting me up for the award, and EADS and the Blues for giving me a great evening."

If you would like to find out more about rugby development in the Vale of Glamorgan, call Matt Silva on 01446 704603.

Llancarfan school pupils wow the Penmark festival

LLANCARFAN Primary School Choir, sang at Penmark music festival recently.

They sang 'A Whole New World', 'Moon River', 'Beauty and the Beast' and 'Rhythm of Life'.

The choir was accompanied by our musical director, Mrs Christofides, and our headteacher, Mr Lewis, was a great conductor!

The choir was nervous to start with but then we all really enjoyed it. Everyone worked hard to learn all the words to the songs and we hope the audience had a wonderful time.

It was a great day out and we hope to do it again soon. *Report by Libby and Mali*

Pupils help the NSPCC

THE children of Llancarfan Primary School recently had a visit from Linda Killick, of the NSPCC.

She explained to the children about the good work that the national charity does, and how it relies upon the generosity of the public for funds.

The children were then asked to take part in a sponsored spell and raise money for the NSPCC.

The school's headteacher, Mr Huw Lewis, said: "The effort of the children was superb and they raised the fantastic amount of £942.

"Thank you to everyone who took part and all those who sponsored the children. Every penny raised will go towards making a better life for children less fortunate than us."

Vale strategy for the care of older people

AT a Care and Repair conference in the Marriot Hotel recently, vice-chairperson Rene Gannon and Winnie Davies, executive member of the Vale of Glamorgan Older People's Strategy Forum, gave a presentation on the Care and Repair service, from older people's perspective.

Shayne Hembrow from Wales and West HA, spoke on future plans for their sheltered housing.

Gwenda Thomas AM, gave the Welsh Assembly's perspective, and what they saw as the future for older people.

Valeways walks

***OCTOBER 11,** 2:30pm, Border Vale Mansions, Start - Llansannor circular St Senwyr Church, Llansannor SS 994 775; **October 13,** 1:30pm, Aberthaw Nature Trail, Start - Car park opposite Blue Anchor Inn, Aberthaw; **October 18,** 2pm, Porthkerry and Rhoose Millennium Trail, Start - St Curig Church, Porthkerry Village; **October 21,** 2pm, Marcross – fields and valley, Start - Horseshoe Inn, Marcross; **October 24,** 2pm, Marconi Circular, Start - Cliff Top Car Park, Penarth; **October 25,** 2pm, Porthkerry and Millward, Start - All Saints Church, Park Rd, Barry; **October 27,** 1:30pm, Sully Beach, Start - Sully Inn Car Park, Sully.*

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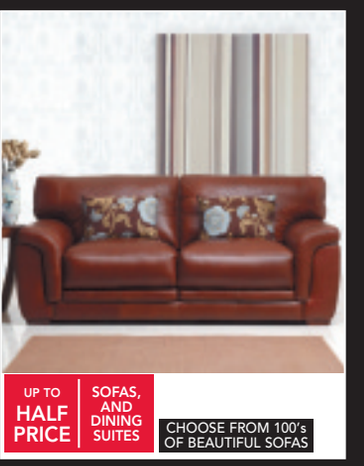

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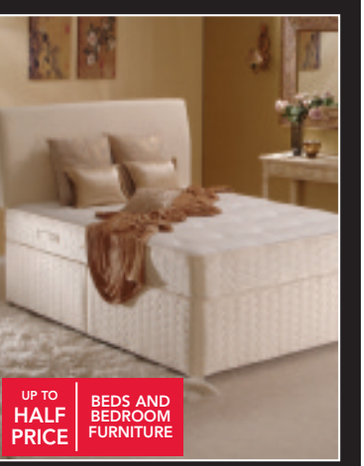

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COWBRIDGE MOVE UP CROSS-COUNTRY LEAGUE

COWBRIDGE Comprehensive School took part in the cross country, second league race at Trelai Park Ely.

Year-7 Boys – After finishing third in the first league fixture, the year-7 team went all out to improve.

This they did with Kristian Jones improving from 4th place to 1st; Ellis Rosser, 7th to 2nd; Tom Lucas 60th to 18th; Toby Walker 40th to 29th; Hywel Williams 63rd to 34th; with Huw Bennett finishing 42nd to complete the team positions. Hopefully, this will move the team up the league standings.

Other team members were: 75, Scott Thomas; 88, Oliver Pyke; 91, Tom Trotman; 93, Daniel Oddy; 102, Kristian Rosser; 123, Nicholas Rees; 125, Warren Ryland.

Year 8/9 – After the first league race the team were in fifth position. There were some good performances from Chris Brace (15th), Cameron Jones (17th) and Tom Owen (18th) as individuals, but team totals suffered with lack of depth.

Other finishers were: 43, Jason Sami; 81, Miles Jenkins; 115, Hatim Shami; 124, Joe Russell.

Year 10-13 – Senior boys were lying in fourth position and were very consistent in their performances, with Elliot Mears (year-11) back to form and finishing third.

Other finishers were: 25, John Davies (year-11); 30; Joshua Thomas (year-11); 45, William Elliott (year-13); 52, Matthew Sullivan (year-10); 59, Dillion Morgan (year-11); 66, Rhys Allin (year-12); 70, Adam Hewitt (year-10); 75, Tomas Kamal (year-10); 79, Lewis Jones (year-10); 81, Michael Lloyd (year-13); 85, Steff Kitchen (year-13); 87, Stewart Fleming (year-10); 93, Jonathan Esquirol (year-10); 96, Michael Rosser (year-13); 106, Luke Aspinall (year-10); 107, Xavier Richard (year-10).

FOOTBALL

YEAR-8 played year-7 in a friendly at the Bear Field ground.

The game was played in good spirit, with plenty of effort and enthusiasm, but year-8 proved slightly stronger, winning 5-0, including two penalties.

Goalscorers were Neil Skyes (captain), Chris Watt, jack Powell, tom Johnston and Owen Ace.

RUGBY

THE First XV rugby team put in a much-improved performance away to Brynteg in the Senior Saturday League.

After the poor opening display at Bro Morgannwg, the school side showed massive improvement in all areas of the game before losing 21-7 against the league favourites.

Cowbridge had many opportunities to increase the pressure on Brynteg, but made some poor decisions at vital points in the game.

Reuben Tucker was outstanding for the school side and showed exactly why he was an international player last season, and a member of the Blues under-18 squad this season.

Captain Tom Howson led by example and there were very good performances from Will Thomas at hooker, Ben Smith on the second row and Tom Harrison at centre.

The school will play the first home game of the season when they welcome Llantwit to Cowbridge.

Year-7 – In a very close game against the Cathedral School, Cowbridge managed to squeeze home (24-15) with four tries from captain Tom Trotman, with two conversions by Matthew Harper.

Other members of the team were Gabe Newham, Hywel Williams, Kristian Davies, Tom Lucas, Craig Boxall, Joseph Treharne, Joshua Brace and David Humphries.

Year-7B – This was another exciting game with plenty of free running rugby. Both teams showed how to run and pass the ball from all areas of the pitch.

Cowbridge boys had a little bit more experience to finish off quality movements, with Daniel Oddy scoring three times.

Other scorers were: Callum Jones, Joseph Bunt, Toby Walker and Nathan Robson. Other members were: Adam Jones, Robert David, Huw Bennett (captain), Rian Thomas, Ellis Andrews, Harri Jehu, Ben Kennedy-Thomas, Harvey Stockton, Ellis Poldien, Max Croucher, Tom Davey and Liam Sloan.

Year-8 – Played the Vale Schools year-7 Cup Final, held over from last season, against Stanwell Comprehensive at Penarth.

A few handling errors by the home side let Cowbridge in for two soft tries scored by Harri Dowell-Bennett.

Under pressure for the next quarter of an hour, the Cowbridge defence stood firm against a strong pack of forwards.

Winning possession in their own 22, they scored a further two tries, by George Griffiths and Harri Dowell-Bennett, to lead by half-time 26-0 with three conversions by Sean Rowland.

In the second half, it still remained a contest, with Stanwell forwards making the Cowbridge eight work hard for possession.

This possession was well used by the Cowbridge back line, who possessed too much speed and scored further tries by Matthew Roberts, Harri Dowell-Bennett and Joshua Thomas (two).

Man-of-the-match was Marc Herbert. A good start to the season, but also a good end to last season, where the team remained unbeaten.

NETBALL

THE Year-8 netball teams made their to middle school for some in-house matches.

Due to the number of pupils wishing to play netball this year, friendly 8A v 8B and 8C v 8D fixtures were played. As a result of some excellent shooting from Hannah Woodwood at GA, the A team beat the Bs 15-1.

The C team also triumphed, beating the Ds 6-1.

It is very encouraging to see so many girls keen to play for the school netball teams. Thanks go to Mrs Eynon for help with this fixture.

At the under-14 Cardiff & Vale netball trials, Elizabeth Whitehouse, Caitlin Allin, Jo Wilkins and Annabel Curle made it through to the second round of trials.

The year-10 and 11 netball teams travelled to Bro Morgannwg for a match with the home school and Llantwit.

Year-10 got off to a fine start, beating Llantwit 5-1, with Katie Wynne named as player of the match. In the next, lower scoring match, they lost to a skilful Bro Morgannwg team 1-3. Rachel Bradshaw was named player of the match.

Year-11 began with a very evenly-matched game against Bro Morgannwg which ended in a 6-6 draw. They then came up short against a strong and skilful Llantwit team, losing 5-10.

Molly Williams, Katie Bradbury and Verity Morgan were highlighted as strong players during both games for their attacking play.

Well done to both teams. A big thank you to Mr Walsh, who helped driving the girls to the fixture at short notice.

The year-8 and 9 netball teams played away at St. Richard Gwyn.

The year-9 girls got off to an excellent start, with Amy Wallis, Liz Whitehouse, Nancie Edwards and Mairi Boxall working solidly in attack. The defence of Bethan Sloan, Caitlin Allin and Georgie Usher worked tirelessly, making some great interceptions but unfortunately just came up short, losing 5-7.

The year-8 team got off to a flying start, with Hannah Woodwood and Joanna Wilkins scoring from all areas of the circle. Together with some excellent defence from Georgia Lott, Lydia Hitchings, Olivia Brown and Sarah Lewis, and with some great linking play from Annabel Curle at centre and Amy O'Donnell at wing attack, the shooters were able to continue with their fine form to finish the game ahead 9-3.

An excellent team performance by all players. Thanks to Mr Griffiths for his assistance in driving the girls to their fixture.

Player of the match: Year-9 Liz Whitehouse; year-8 Annable Curle.

SKIING

CONGRATULATIONS go to Sam Stephens, who won his age category – 'Junior 1' at the recent British Artificial Skiing Championships.

Congratulations also go to Alice Hales, who won silver overall in the same British Artificial Championships and gold in the dual, beating England!

Similarly, her brother Tom Hales, who left us last year, also gained a silver overall and gold in the dual. Also beating England!

Best wishes to Emily Hopkins, who was unfortunately stretchered off injured during the weekend. We wish her a speedy recovery, ready for the Welsh Schools Championships in Llangrannog on Sunday, October 11.

The school A and B, boys and girls teams will all be competing at Llangrannog. We wish them well prior to the competition.

ABOVE:
Action from the held-over year-7 rugby cup final.

LEFT: Kristian Jones (year-7) was the winner of the cross-country.

BELOW:
The year-7 boys cross-country team.

ABOVE:
The year-8 and 9 cross-country team..

Llantwit under-9s remain unbeaten

LLANTWIT under-9s travelled to Barry RFC in the second game of the season and yet again the boys played out of their skins.

The game started with a small gap in the Llantwit defence which Barry ran through to score a brilliant try.

Barry applied the pressure while attacking downhill, but Harry Bluck and new boy Frazier tackled everything that moved. Barry passed the ball out wide to score again.

Half-time Llantwit were 2-0 down, but in the second half they went out with all guns blazing and gave it their all, using the hill to their advantage.

After a few minutes it paid off with top try-scorer Jac Wisendon scoring with a brilliant run through the defence after a break from Guy Newman.

Llantwit were always looking to score with pace on the outside from Will Cummings-Jones and Joseff Harris. Jake Newton and Joshua Mannings were also pinching the ball in the contact area.

Then the second try came from a penalty which saw Ewan Robinson smash his way through the defence.

A brilliant game from the boys who still remain unbeaten. A big thank you to Phil Cummings-Jones for the help.

Man-of-the-match went to Dom Henson for his hard work and smashing his way around the park.

Llantwit team: Dom Henson (captain), Ewan Robinson, Guy Newman, Frazier, Jac Wisendon, Harry Bluck, Joshua Mannings, Jake Newton, Joseff Harris and William Cummings- Jones.

CP

NEWS FROM 2ND LLANTWIT MAJOR BOYS' BRIGADE

Collections exceed £300 for the first time!

MAY I, through the GEM, thank the good people of both Llantwit Major and Cowbridge for their generosity during our recent street collections when £316.97 was given in Llantwit and £318.62 in Cowbridge.

This is the first time that the £300 mark has been reached.

The officers and boys are holding their annual enrolment service in Tabernacle Presbyterian Church, Methodist Lane, Llantwit Major at 6pm today (October 8).

This will be conducted by our chaplain, Rev Duncan A Ballantyne, and all are welcome to attend.

Nine boys, that is three teams, will be travelling to Dunstable next weekend for the Boys' Brigade National Ten Pin Bowling championships.

This will be followed by a day in London.

As one of our teams brought home the cup for the best young team the last two years, it is hoped that a hat-trick will be recorded!

ANDY WELLSBURY (Leader)

Getting ahead with a hat!

LLANTWIT MAJOR WI NEWS

DURING the business section of the meeting, members were brought up to date with arrangements for future events and correspondence.

Cards were given out to the 'birthday girls'.

The speaker for the evening was Jan Jennings talking on 'The history of hats'. Members were taken back in time to the 1900s when the hats were ornate and enormous and ladies changed their outfits several times a day.

The variety and length of the hatpins caused some comments. It was fascinating to see Jan produce hat after hat from the decades that followed. At the end of her talk, members had fun trying on the hats.

The competition for an interesting piece of pottery was won by Jean Swift and the bloom of the month by Julia Jenking.

The next meeting, the AGM, will be on November 5. The competition will be winter boots and the stall will be something red.

Homes & Gardens

Who wants to build what and where in the Vale?

TJ Kinsey & Sons – **land at Weycock Road, Barry** – erection of agricultural barn (re-submission of App No 2007/01535/OUT).
SGS Scaffolding Cardiff Ltd – **houses 2 and 4, Balmoral Quays, Penarth Esplanade, Penarth** – renew roof covering in natural slate.
Ms Helen Morgan – **13 Meliden Road, Penarth** – proposed ground floor rear extension.
Mr Robert Morgan – **The Stables, St Donats** – ground and first floor extension to contain sitting room and office. Conversion of attic to form an additional bedroom.
Dr SK Mughal – **Sunrise Residential Home, 11 Porthkerry Road, Barry** – extension for lift shaft.
Mr Ian Branch – **91 Eastgate, Cowbridge** – minor alteration to existing timber shop front to incorporate lower sill level.
Mr Andrew Wood – **21 Meliden Road, Penarth** – erection of a single storey rear extension.
Mr Anthony Saunders – **24 Heol Corswigen, Barry** – proposed first floor extension and garage conversion.
Mr Adrian Rowe – **Chapel House, Rhoose Road, Rhoose** – addition of dormer to rear roof plane to allow for loft conversion. New porch to side of property and creation of balcony on existing single storey flat roof extension.
Mr and Mrs Parker – **Llwyn Rhyddid House, Hensol** – proposed garage/garden store.
Mr Rhys and Alys Price – **Curnix Barn, Curnix, Moulton** – to rescind condition 3 of planning permission 2004/00003/FUL to allow retention of the northern vehicular access gate.
JG Osborne – **39 Westward Rise, Barry** – crown thin, crown lift and balance ash and remove one Eucalyptus.
Mrs Louise Lewis – **67 Llanmaes Road, Llantwit Major** – first floor extension over existing garage and renew prefabricated utility room in masonry construction.
Mr Michael Bridge – **Glenburn, Alberta Road, Penarth** – enlargement of first floor to create improved bedroom area and dressing room.
Mr Ian Soloman – **1 Hillcrest, off Gileston Road, St Athan** – proposed detached garage.
Mr Mike Roach – **Brynheulog Farm, St Andrews Road, Wenvoe** – replacement dwelling on grounds of existing nursery.
Mr David Little – **Golygfa, Colwinston** – variation of approved scheme for new dwelling to provide porch and conservatory extension and solar panel bank (amendment to 2008/01028/FUL).
Mr Stuart Williamson – **Midfield House, Pen Y Turnpike Road, Dinas Powys** – loft conversion.
Mr and Mrs G Perkins – **Castle Court, Broad Close Lane, Moulton** – construction of Gabion retaining walling and associated engineering works and changes to adjoining ground levels.
Mr Patrick Davies – **Old Barn Cottage, Church Road, Llanblethian** – removal of Cypress trees (hedge).
Mr Jason Chadwick – **New Look, 102-106 Holton Road, Barry** – internally illuminated fascia and projecting sign.
Mr Mark Haynes – **Victoria Primary School, Cornerswell Road, Penarth** – change of use of existing residential dwelling of the caretaker's house to classrooms on the ground floor, new toilets on the first floor with a view to use two other rooms as offices.
Mr and Mrs David Shields – **land at Pear Tree Cottage, Marcross** – erection of one dwelling (outline).
Mr Andrew Bowen – **off Wimbourne Road, adjacent to Dow Corning private access road, Barry** – modification to the sewer network at Barry East Storm Pumping Station.
Mr C Davies – **Old Paddock Cottage, St Brides Major** – proposed single storey pitched/lean-to roofs extension, proposed first floor pitched roof extension.
Mrs T Jenkins – **Stallcourt House, Stallcourt Close, Llanblethian** – erection of free standing, single storey, timber framed, glazed conservatory.
Mr Dave Meaden – **165 Plymouth Road, Penarth** – single storey extension to rear. Construction of second storey over existing single storey extension at rear of house. Roof space to contain an extension to existing loft conversion to contain two bedrooms and a bathroom. New roof over existing garage.
Mr John Meredith – **17 Barons Close, Llantwit Major** – amendment to application 2007/00721/FUL to increase size of single storey annexe to front of dwelling.
Mr Liaqat Khan – **1 Plymouth Road, Barry** – house of multiple occupation with 11 bedrooms, kitchen, three bathrooms and living rooms.
Mr Lyndsay Llewellyn – **Old Beaupre Farm, St Hilary, Cowbridge** – proposed extension to existing cattle in-wintering building to cover existing yard.
Ms Thomas – **Sully House, Swanbridge** – roof extension over rear annexe with Velux rooflights, single storey rear/side extension, and balustrading over front.
Mrs Barnes – **24 Andover Close, Barry** – single storey extension to side of property.
ABK Property (South Wales) LLP – **land adjacent to New Parc Farm, St Donats** – erection of four detached dwellings and garages and re-alignment of access to site, together with the demolition of existing precast atcost type farm buildings.
Master Andy Long – **74 Castle Avenue, Penarth** – ornamental railings and sliding gate to drive to enclose forecourt area.
Mr WD Minns, **24 Heol Yr Ysgol, St Brides Major** – new detached dwelling in rear garden.
Mrs N Johnson, **7 Craven Walk, Penarth** – single storey extension to existing garage, to include sun room and workshop.
Miss K McConnochie, **Tyle House, Tyle House Close, Llanmaes** – fell mature Ash.
Esa Tree Care Ltd, **The Croft, Methodist Lane, Llantwit Major** – crown lift Yew off drive up to three metres.
Colwinston Church, Colwinston – crown lift Yew near path.
St Nicholas Church, St Nicholas – crown lift various trees.
London & Stirling, **Unit B, Vale Gate Retail Park, Culverhouse Cross** – install two new water tanks and one pump room for new sprinkler system to existing unit. The tanks and pump room are to be installed to the rear of the unit.
Mr David Hoskins, **2 Readers Way, Rhoose** – remove Elders/Hawthorns from rear garden.
Mrs Howell-Richardson, **Fairmead Lodge, St Nicholas** – remove Holm Oak.
Mr K Jackson, **80 Tynewydd Road, Barry** – take down rear kitchen/toilet extension and construct new single storey extension for kitchen/breakfast room.
Mrs Kath Bevan, **75 Broad Street, Barry** – conversion of a four-bedroom house into two two-bedroom apartments.
Mr Carey Johnson, **Brooklands Hall, Brook Lane, St Nicholas** – reconstruction of dwelling.
Ms Ann Hollyman, **The Post Office, 13 Glebe Street, Penarth** – single storey rear extension.
Tesco Stores Ltd, **57 Holton Road, Barry** – installation of ATM and secure room door. Five internally illuminated fascia signs, two internally illuminated projecting signs and various other vinyls and minor advertisements. Installation of shopfront and external alterations. Installation of three air-conditioning units and one condenser unit.
Mr Salvatore Erri, **Maerdy Newydd Farm, Bonvilston** – private manege and associated landscape planting.
Barry Arts Centre, **Winston Road, Colcot, Barry** – retention of prefabricated units to rear of building.
Professor Beddoe, **4 Heol Y Gaer, The Knap, Barry** – replace first floor conservatory with same as existing.
PW Millar Ltd, **Port Road East, Barry** – rebranding of existing Texaco illuminated image on the forecourt canopy, forecourt stanchions and primary identifier display (PID or pole sign).
Mr and Mrs Jenkins, **30 Main Road, Ogmore-by-Sea, Bridgend** – rear extensions, alteration to roof and detached garage.
Mr Rod Brown, **Little Coldbrook House, Coldbrook Road East, Barry** – detached garage with storage cover.
Ms Gaynor, **22 Heol Ger Y Felin, Llanilltud Fawr** – two storey side extension to house.
Mr Nicholas Guard, **Greenhaven, Beach Road, Gileston** – amendments to planning application to change garage from a hipped roof structure to gable end with dormer in roof space.
Mr P Devji, **Custom House, 41 Dock View Road, Barry** – conversion of 16 flats and conversion of workshop to a retail shop in basement.
Mr Roger Arthur, **Littlewood Cottage, Wick Road, St Brides Major** – two storey extension to rear of property and conservatory.
Mr Stephen Hicks, **West Aberthaw Farm, West Aberthaw** – variation of condition two of planning application.
Mr S Dodd, **32 Clos Y Fulfran, Barry** – single storey extension with terrace above. Juliette balcony to first floor front elevation.
Abbey, **4-4A Windsor Road, Penarth** – various illuminated and non-illuminated signage.
Mr Peter Davies, **1 Maes y Felin, Llandow, Cowbridge** – first floor extension above existing single storey side extension.
Mr Richard Valintine Tymaen, **Ty Maen FArm, Ystradowen, Cowbridge** – rear extension.
Ms Lis Neil, **The Vale Hospital, Hensol Castle Estate, Pontyclun** – relocation of the electric substation in a single storey group housing and stand-by generator.

Tenants gather for Hub advice

THE Newydd Housing Association AGM held at the Hub in Barry drew tenants from across south Wales.

With a DVD starring comedienne Jo Brand, on ways to save money and cut energy costs, stalls were also set up, with organisations such as the Vale CAB, Thompson Street 'Drop in Centre' and the Vale Council offering advice.

Jane Hutt, AM for the Vale, visited the Money Market to meet tenants and Newydd Housing Association Chair, Gail Lancaster.

Jane Hutt AM with Thompson Street Tenants.

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GEM CHRISTMAS PARTY GUIDE

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

THE SECRETS OF BEING AT EASE IN THE OFFICE PARTY

By Sarah Marshall and Susan Griffin

LOOKING for a bit of flirty fun this festive season? The GEM looks at how to outshine the competition at Christmas parties and discover the secrets of successful flirting.

Like turkey with all the trimmings, or karaoke renditions of Slade, the office Christmas party is a tradition to be embraced but once a year.

Most people use it as an excuse to let loose at their employer's expense, but a growing number are seizing the opportunity to release pent-up romantic tensions, translating furtive glances shared over a PC desktop into true love.

In the past, free food and booze have always been the biggest draw, but in this credit-crunch climate – where the petty cash is unlikely to stretch beyond a paltry mince pie – a chance to flirt with work colleagues could provide the biggest pull.

According to Elizabeth Kuhnke, author of *Body Language For Dummies*, this is a great time of year to be looking for a new partner.

She said: "The festive season is the ideal time to look for love.

"Parties are in abundance, meaning spirits are high and inhibitions are low."

Unfortunately, it's also the same time of year that most of us are looking pale, sun-starved and weathered by the elements. For Kuhnke, though, that's not a problem. Successful singles aren't always the belles of the ball.

She explained: "It's a little known fact that availability counts for more than beauty in the dating game.

"A man will tend to pursue a woman who may not be the most attractive in the room, as long as she's giving off signals indicating her availability. The most important thing to understand when searching for a partner is how to communicate your interest."

Kuhnke adds: "Women focus on their hair, clothing and make-up when preparing to go out, but they must also remember that their body language is instrumental for gaining and maintaining the interest of a partner.

"Understanding the key signals, and using them to your advantage, matters more than an outfit."

So dressing up – or down – is the easy part, and hours wasted styling hair could be better spent learning how to flick locks coquettishly. In fact, the only things we should really be applying in the mirror are body language techniques.

Sending out signals by means of subtle physical nuances might sound complicated, but it all comes under the umbrella of flirting.

So how do you perfect it to a fine art?

"The essence of a good flirt is confidence, empathy and humour," says Jean Smith, a social anthropologist and founder of Flirting & Walking tours in London (www.alluresemi-nars.com).

"A good flirt makes the other person feel good, and because they're so confident, they don't need the validation back – although they always get it."

What's more, flirting can be used as a tool to generate success in other areas of your life.

Peta Heskell, the original flirt coach and board member of The Academy of Marriage, Sex and Relationships (*www.flirtingacademy.com*), agrees.

She said: "When you can flirt with anyone, for fun, with or without the sexual element and you know who to flirt with and who not to, it makes people feel good about you and that leads to social and business success."

It may not always seem the case, but according to Heskell, we were all born flirts.

She insisted: "Flirting is a natural mechanism designed to help us send signals to someone we like, so they might make the approach, but some of us have had it parented, or schooled out of us."

Sadly, many of us have lost the confidence to flirt, but there are plenty of DIY steps you can take.

If you're shy, Heskell suggest practicing with older people or children.

She explained: "They're more amenable to connection as they're often less inhibited and more laid back. Put your full attention on them as they come towards you, think nice thoughts about them, and look at them.

"It isn't rocket science, smile and say hello. The more you practice, the more naturally you'll do it with someone you really like."

A good flirt will also learn to read situations well. Jane Hoskyn, dating expert at iVillage.co.uk, says listening is key. She suggests remembering things a man mentions early in the conversation and repeating them later, making him think you have a great deal in common.

And it's not only a case of developing your own body language, but also interpreting your partner's.

"If he likes you, he'll follow your eye contact by pushing his shoulders back and puffing out his chest - it's a primate thing," she says.

"Also watch out for a suppressed smile and super-quick raised eyebrows."

Once the art of flirting has been mastered and body language finely tuned, these transferable skills can be applied to all areas of life.

After all, it boils down to being more aware of other people, and that's something that can work all year round!

Green Dragon welcomes you!

CERI and Jayne Lewis have been proprietors of the Green Dragon, Llancadle, for nearly five years.

Their popular conservatory dining area overlooks the picturesque Vale countryside, and they serve an extensive menu of freshly-prepared dishes to order at lunch times and evenings, .

Sunday lunch is excellent value, with a three-course for only £13.95, with the option of one or two courses available.

The Green Dragon is preparing for Christmas celebrations and, with the economic climate in mind, prices have been frozen – no price increases, but still the same high standards!

They offer a choice of Christmas party menus for up to 60 people, available from the end of November.

However, they will accommodate earlier dates on request.

The Green Dragon is also open for Christmas Day lunch, but early booking is advisable.

There is also a special Boxing Day lunch served between 12pm-6pm, with main courses only £5 and starters and desserts only £2.

This beautiful pub, set in the Vale countryside, is surely the perfect venue for your Christmas celebrations.

Ceri and Jayne recently celebrated the birth of their third child, a daughter, Arwen Menna, sister for Dan and Rhiana.

GIULIANO'S
ITALIAN RESTAURANT
Christmas Party Menu
available from December 1st
Three courses & coffee only £23.00
Christmas Day Lunch
Three courses & coffee £50.00
Children under 12 half price
Booking essential.
1 The Parade, The Knap, Barry
Telephone: 01446 733340

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Tickets now on sale for our
BONFIRE NIGHT EXTRAVAGANZA
WEDNESDAY 4th November
£4 HEAD
FAMILY TICKET (2+2) £12
BBQ available
Competition for the kids
GLASS OF BUBBLY ON ARRIVAL
STARTERS
Mushroom Soup; Prawn Cocktail;
Deep Fried Brie with Redcurrant Jelly; Garlic Mushrooms
MAIN COURSES
Roast Turkey, Stuffing and Chipolatas
Baked Salmon Fillet with Champagne Sauce
Vegetable & Nut Wellington
Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding
Welsh 10oz Rib Eye Steak (Extra £2.50)
DESSERTS
Christmas Pudding and Brandy Sauce
Sherry Trifle; Rum & Raisin Cheesecake
Chocolate Black Forest Gateau.
Coffee and mints
A deposit of £10 per head is required (non-returnable)
No booking is guaranteed unless deposit is paid
Minibus subject to availability

Egerton Grey
COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL
December Dinner Menu
Kir Royale and canape reception
To Start
Roast vegetable broth, Boxtey dumpling
Pressed ham hock, root vegetable terrine, garden plumb chutney
Smoked Salmon roulade, crab cucumber salsa
Crisp panchetta and roast chestnut salad
Melon, sorbet, berry compote
To Follow
Traditional roast Glamorgan turkey, seasonal accompaniments
Pan roast supreme of Merthyr Mawr pheasant, spiced red cabbage, damson sauce
Baked fillet of local cod, Welsh rarebit, creamed leeks
Char grilled sirloin steak, onion ring, pomme pont neuf, pink peppercorn sauce
Goat's cheese and plum tomato tart (V)
All the above served with roast potatoes and panache of vegetables
For Dessert
Our own Country House Christmas pudding
brandy Anglaise, rum and raisin ice cream
Ice praline parfait, home made biscuit, toffee sauce
Flourless cardamoni Chocolate cake spiced caramelised orange
Cranberry cheesecake, tuille biscuit, mulled wine syrup
Selection of mainly Welsh cheeses, walnut bread, fruit chutney
3 Courses £35
Including Kir Royale and canapés on arrival.
Coffee and mince pie included
Christmas Lunch Menu
Two Courses £17.00
Three Courses £22.00
AA**** 1 Rosette
To make a booking, call 01446 711666
Egerton Grey Country House, Porthkerry, CF62 3BZ
mail to:info@egertongrey.co.uk
Visit Wales Four Star

THE GREEN DRAGON INN
LLANCADLE
Christmas Fayre Evening Menu
Choice of Christmas Lunchtime menus 3 Courses £11.95 or £15.95
Christmas Day 6-course Special Menu Adults £49.95 Children £29.95
only £21.95 per person
Homemade Tomato and Basil Soup
Homemade Roasted Parsnip Soup
Breaded Salmon Goujons served on a bed of rocket salad with a light, lemon mayonnaise
Selection of Melon drizzled with a Port and Mixed Berry Coulis
****
Traditional Roast Glamorganshire Turkey and Roast Chestnut Stuffing
Roast Topside of Welsh Beef
Pan Fried Pork Tenderloin with a Brandy and Peppercorn Sauce
Poached Fillet of Salmon with a Prawn and Lobster Sauce
Homemade Wild Mushroom, Camembert and Caramelised Red Onion Filo Tartlet
****
Traditional Christmas Pudding and Brandy Sauce
Homemade Mixed Berry Cheesecake
Homemade Baileys Creme Brulee
Selection of Welsh and Continental Cheeses
Chocolate Fudgecake
****
Mince Pies and Freshly Brewed Coffee
BOOKING ESSENTIAL
01446 750913

GEM CHRISTMAS PARTY GUIDE

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

RECOVERING FROM LAST NIGHT'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

CHRISTMAS is the season to be 'merry', but drinking too much might leave you the worse for wear.

One golden rule is: '*Never be tempted to drink and drive*'.

So how can you avoid hangovers? And if you do have one, how can you cope with it?

HERE ARE YOUR TOP 12 TIPS FOR SURVIVAL:

1/ Make sure you have eaten before going to a party! Food slows down the absorbtion of alcohol and will protect your stomach lining.

2/ One rule is: 'Don't mix grape and grain.' Put simply, beer and whisky come from grain, whereas wine and cognac come from grapes. If you are not sure what sambuca, ouzo or retsina are made from, then you may have to do some research or ask a friendly waiter.

3/ Smoking makes you want to drink more, so avoid the temptation to light a cigarette, or cigar.

4/ Alcohol can dehydrate the body. To counteract the effect of dehydration, drink a pint of water before you go to bed.

5/ One remedy advised by people is taking evening primrose oil, which is alleged to boost liver function, helping the body break down alcohol in the system.

6/ Learn to say 'no' when you have reached your limit. Don't let people persuade you to drink more than you should.

7/ During a meal, drink water with your wine.

This will slow down your alcohol intake, and it will also stop that dehydration effect.

8/ Vitamin C in the form of orange juice or other citrus juices will help neutralise the effects of alcohol.

9/ Make sure you eat a healthy balanced breakfast. Because alcohol stimulates the production of insulin, your blood sugar levels could well be low, and the food will take care of this.

10/ A classy 'hair of the dog' cure for a hangover is Fernet Branca. Take 25 per cent Fernet Branca, 25 per cent Italian Vermouth, and 50 per cent gin!

If that sounds like a mouthful you'd rather avoid, then try a shot of Ferner Branca in a cafe espresso!

11/ In complete contrast, the ancient Greeks (great thinkers!) were convinced that eating cabbage was a cure!

12/ Go back to tip number 6 and remind yourself that no one is funny if they've had too much to drink – they just look silly!

DICKENSIAN FAIR

A DICKENSIAN fair in the Village Square, Dinas Powys, is sure to get you in the Christmas spirit on December 4.

Craft and gift stalls, mulled wine, Santa's Grotto and Christmas carols played by the Vale of Glamorgan brass band.

It is organised by the Rotary Club of Dinas Powys.

Leicester's Restaurant

The Great House Hotel ****

Laleston, nr Porthcawl

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Email: enquiries@great-house-laleston.co.uk

The FONTYGARY INN

CHRISTMAS PARTY MENU

2nd November - 30th January 2010

(Excludes Christmas Day)

STARTERS

Homemade spicy tomato & cauliflower soup
Duck & orange paté with caramelised onion chutney
Garlic mushrooms with crusty bread

MAIN COURSE

Traditional roast turkey
Thick sliced roast beef
Poached salmon with lemon and lime butter
Leek and potato pie

DESSERTS

Traditional Christmas pudding and brandy sauce
Strawberry shortcake stack
Homemade sherry trifle
Warm chocolate log and thick brandy cream

PRICES:

2 courses £9.95 • 3 courses £12.45

Entertainment Friday and Saturday Evenings

HALLOWEEN PARTY: Saturday 31st October with NORMAN PEREIRA

Free entry, fancy dress - all welcome

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Live entertainment, disco & buffet. Late Bar. Tickets £12.50 now available

FONMON ROAD, RHOOSE

TEL. 01446 711221

Best Western

Christmas *at* The Mount Sorrel

CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHTS

Three course dinner and coffee followed by dancing till late – £32.50 *per person*

Available Saturday, 28th November, Friday 4th, Saturday 5th, Friday 11th, Thursday 17th, Friday 18th, Saturday 19th, Monday 21st & Tuesday 22nd December

MENU CHOICES

Chicken & Cranberry Terrine
Homemade Tomato & Basil Soup

☆☆☆

Roast Turkey Crown
Roast Leg of Welsh Lamb and Mint Sauce
Grilled Salmon Supreme with White Wine & Chive Sauce
Brie & Beetroot Tart

☆☆☆

Selection of Vegetables

☆☆☆

Christmas Pudding & Brandy Sauce
Cranberry & Orange Brulee Cheesecake

☆☆☆

Coffee & Mints

Value Party Night Thursday, 17th November

Christmas Day Bookings now being taken

New Years Eve - Hollywood Theme

(Fancy Dress Optional) – Dancing til 2am

Please phone for details

PORTHKERRY ROAD, BARRY

Telephone: 01446 740069

www.bw-mountsorrelhotel.co.uk

River View Chinese Restaurant

Takeaway service also available

Christmas Special Party Menu

For parties of 5 people or more, 1 person eats for free

£23.50 per person

FIRST COURSE

Lettuce Wrap and Dragon Pearl

(Chicken and prawn meat balls wrapped in a crispy pastry served with sweet dips)

SECOND COURSE

Crispy Aromatic Duck (served with pancakes, salad and Hoisin sauce)

(For parties of 4 or more)

Mixed Seafood Platter (served with a range of our specialised sauces)

THIRD COURSE

Chinese Roast Pork with Pineapple and Syrup
Stir-Fried Chicken with Chinese Greens in Oyster Sauce
Shredded Crispy Beef in Bird's Nest
Monks Vegetables

(For parties of 4 or more)

King Prawn with Garlic Butter Sauce
Singapore Vermicelli

AFTER

Christmas Pudding or Ice Cream

(Available from November 23, 2009 to January 2, 2010.

Normal A La Carte Menu is also available during Christmas and New Year period.

CHRISTMAS PARTY PICK-AND-MIX MENU

£15.50 per person

Choose maximum 3 starters and 3 main courses between the 2 of you, or maximum 4 starters, 4 main courses for the 3 of you.

Unit 1, Britannia House, Penny Lane, COWBRIDGE

(Situated behind Town Hall Car Park)

Tel: 01446 771668

www.riverview668.co.uk

info@riverview668.co.uk

Festive Lunch

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS AND PARTY HATS (1st - 22nd December)

TOMATO & BASIL SOUP
MELON BOAT

ROAST GLAMORGAN TURKEY
CARVED WELSH BEEF
CHOICE OF VEGETARIAN DISH

CHRISTMAS PUDDING
MIXED FRUIT TRIFLE
PROFITEROLES

COFFEE AND MINTS

£11.99 per person

Celebrate this Christmas with relatives, friends, and colleagues in one of the most attractive restaurants in the Vale!

CLUB RESTAURANT

SERVING LUNCH 12 - 2.30 pm / EVENINGS 6.30 - 9 pm TUESDAY - SATURDAY

Christmas Day 5 Course Menu with all the trimmings £34.99

Festive Evening

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS AND PARTY HATS

TOMATO & BASIL SOUP
MELON BOAT
PRAWN COCKTAIL
BREADED MUSHROOMS

ROAST GLAMORGAN TURKEY
CARVED WELSH BEEF
SALMON FILLET
GAMMON STEAK & PINEAPPLE
CHOICE OF VEGETARIAN DISH

CHRISTMAS PUDDING
MIXED FRUIT TRIFLE
PROFITEROLES

COFFEE AND MINTS

£14.99 per person

We also have an extensive Lunch, Evening & Set Party Menu available throughout the year. All Welcome!

Please call in or phone for a Menu & Booking form.
TO BOOK PHONE SULLY 02920531700 /20530353
PLEASE MAKE ALL RESERVATIONS IN ADVANCE

Traditional Sunday Roast
12.00 - 2.30 pm - Two Course £7.95

GEM CHRISTMAS PARTY GUIDE

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

KR's Nightspot

CELEBRATE WITH US
Christmas Party Bookings Now Being Taken

STARTERS
Broccoli & Stilton Soup
Classic Prawn Cocktail
Galia Melon & Parma Ham

MAINS
Roast, Stuffed Turkey Crown
Slow Roasted Topside of Welsh Beef
Goats Cheese & Vegetable Strudel
served with trimmings

DESSERTS
Individual Christmas Pudding
Triple Chocolate Cheesecake
Tarte Au Citron

Two Courses £17.95 - Three Courses £19.95

UPCOMING EVENTS
these events are always popular so book early to avoid disappointment!

FRIDAY, 30th OCTOBER
MERCURY
Definitive Queen Tribute – Tickets £16.50 including Chicken & Chips

FRIDAY, 13th NOVEMBER
CERI DUPREE
Female Impersonator – Tickets £16.50 including Chicken & Chips

FRIDAY, 20th NOVEMBER
GEORGE MICHAEL
Tribute – Tickets £10.00 including Chicken & Chips

SATURDAY, 21st NOVEMBER
LEE EVANS
Comedy Tribute – Tickets £12.50 including Chicken & Chips

FRIDAY, 27th NOVEMBER
MICHAEL JACKSON
Tribute – Tickets £16.50 including Chicken & Chips

SATURDAY, 28th NOVEMBER
FRANK SINATRA
Tribute
Christmas Celebration Event
2 Course £17.95 3 Course £19.95

FRIDAY, 4th DECEMBER
LIONEL RITCHIE
Tribute
Christmas Celebration Event
2 Course £17.95 3 Course £19.95

FRIDAY, 11th DECEMBER
ROD STEWART
Tribute
Christmas Celebration Event
2 Course £17.95 3 Course £19.95

FRIDAY, 18th DECEMBER
JAMES BROWN
Tribute
Christmas Celebration Event
2 Course £17.95 3 Course £19.95

SATURDAY, 19th DECEMBER
ROBBIE WILLIAMS
Swing Tribute
Christmas Celebration Event
2 Course £17.95 3 Course £19.95

For Bookings and Enquiries - Telephone 01446 721888
KR'S NIGHTSPOT, BARRY ISLAND PLEASURE PARK
krs@barry-island.co.uk

The DOLPHIN BAR
Available to hire out over the Christmas period – NO HIRE FEE!

Enjoy the Christmas party season, but here are a few tips to spare the waistline!

by KATE WHITING

DON'T end the year feeling like a stuffed sausage – find out how to wine and dine without ruining your waistline – or damaging your health!

The goose is getting fat, and so will we during the Christmas party season if we're not careful about what we eat in the next few months.

Every year, millions of us are tempted to start gobbling down mince pies earlier and earlier as supermarkets start promotions and we build up to the big calorie-fest that is Christmas week.

The average Brit consumes a gut-busting 7,000 calories on Christmas Day alone!

A seemingly innocent meal of a turkey sandwich, a leftover mince pie and a glass of wine comes to a whopping 930 calories, which you'd have to walk 9.3 miles to burn off.

Little wonder our clothes feel so tight on January 1 each year.

But it's not all doom and gloom – with some careful planning it is possible to have a low calorie Christmas party season, says nutritionist Carrie Ruxton.

"It's important to think about what you're going to do over the festive period, so you don't end up having this weight gain and then feel miserable about it in January."

Carrie recommends deciding what your approach to Christmas eating and drinking will be, and then sticking to it.

"Dieticians always come across as killjoys during the Christmas period, but that's because our clinics are always flooded in January with people saying 'Oh dear, I've put on a stone, I'm so depressed about it'. You can enjoy yourself, but you have to think ahead and make the right choices for you."

Here are Carrie's tips for a sensible intake:

MORE PROTEIN, LESS FAT

"Think about the plates of food that you have and go for more turkey and more veg and then minimise the sauces and high fat ingredients like roast potatoes. Turkey is low in fat and very high in protein, which has been shown to make you feel full for longer, so you won't come back for more."

VARY YOUR VEGETABLES

"Vegetables are low GI and high in fibre and will fill you up with fewer calories than fatty alternatives such as nibbles and sausage rolls. But it's easy to get bored of veg over the Christmas season and then you'll start having smaller portions. Why not try roasting winter vegetables like swedes and onions or go for seasonal cabbage and spinach for a change?

"Roasted potatoes are really really high in calories because they've been sitting in fat in the oven. Why not mash, bake or boil them for a healthier alternative?"

HAVE SMALLER PORTIONS

"In Mediterranean countries, they put a small amount on their plate and then, if they feel like it, they'll have some more. But in Britain, we load up the plate until it's overflowing and then everybody feels obliged to eat everything on the plate. Switch to the Mediterranean style and you'll probably find you eat less."

CHOOSE HEALTHY STARTERS AND PUDDINGS

"Go for soup because it's more filling than greasy vol-au-vents or sausages on sticks, and for dessert, try something like meringue with fruit and natural yoghurt, which will be much lower calorie than the traditional pudding with custard and brandy butter.

"If you really have to have Christmas pudding, have a smaller portion than normal."

Il Vesuvio
ITALIAN RESTAURANT & PIZZERIA

Christmas Evening Menu
served 6pm - 11 pm

Starters
Zuppa Di Minestrone
Ministrone Soup
Bruschetta Con Salmone
Toasted Ciabetta Bread topped with chopped Tomato, Garlic, Olive Oil and Salmon
Funghi Alla Diavola
Mushrooms, Garlic Sauce and Tomatoes
Polpette Napoli
Chef's Homemade Meatballs
Calamari Fritti
Deep Fried Squid

Main Course
Agnello Al Rosmarino
Rump of Lamb cooked in Garlic, Rosemary, Red Wine and Balsamic Vinegar
Pesce Al Vino Bianco
Halibut Steak cooked with Garlic, White Wine Sauce
Bistecca Boscaiola
8oz Sirloin Steak cooked with Mushrooms, Brandy & Red Wine Sauce
Pollo Florentina
Chicken Breast cooked with Spring Onions, Asparagus, Gorgonzola Cheese and Cream
Penne Al Pepperone
Pasta cooked with Garlic, White Wine, Cream and Sweet Peppers

Dessert
Panna Cotta - Tiramasu - Ice Cream - Coffee or Tea

£21.95 per person

3 Course Lunch Menu plus Coffee
Served 12 noon - 2.30pm
£14.95 per person
Booking essential for parties
Please phone for reservations

13 -14 Pound Field, Llantwit Major
Tel. 01446 796245

The Casa Paco
1 BROAD STREET PARADE, BARRY

Available from 1st December
Christmas Evening Menu
Monday-Saturday 6.30-9pm
Deep fried Brie with conserve
Prawn cocktail
Melon with port (or plain melon crown)
Mushrooms cooked in Garlic Butter
Farmhouse Paté served with Chutney
Soup of the day
Creamy Stilton Mushrooms
. . . . . .
Roast Glamorgan Turkey with Chipolata, served with Cranberry & Apricot stuffing
Rack of Welsh Lamb with Port & Redcurrant Sauce
Chicken Princess (breast of chicken cooked in a white wine and cheese sauce)
Grilled Scotch Fillet Steak (6oz), plain or with a choice of Au Poivre Sauce (creamy pepper), Champignion Sauce (rich mushroom) or Diane Sauce (onion, mushroom, wine & tomato)
Fresh Salmon served with parsley and lemon sauce
All served with vegetables of the day and potatoes
. . . . . .
Choice of the Sweet Trolley
. . . . . .
Coffee, Dinner Mint and Mince Pie
£28.50 per person
(Christmas Cracker inc.)

CHRISTMAS LUNCH MENU
Served Tuesday-Friday 12-2pm
4 Courses £19.95

Christmas Day (One Sitting only)
Booking essential. £59.95
Children under 12 - 1/2 Price.

For reservations, please call 01446 732009

DAY TRIPS Coach services you can trust

		Adult	Child/OAP
OCT 23	DRAYTON MANOR THEME PARK	£35.00	£30.00*
OCT 25	ALTON TOWERS - HALLOWEEN SCAREFEST	£41.00	£31.00*
NOV 6	BRIDGEWATER, SOMERSET CARNIVAL	£15.00	£12.50
NOV 8	BATH	£12.00	£10.00
NOV 13/14	FRENCH SHOPPING TRIP	£35.00	£30.00
NOV 21	BIRMINGHAM BULLRING SHOPPER	£16.00	£14.00
NOV 27	WORCESTER CHRISTMAS MARKET	£15.00	£13.00
NOV 28	LONDON - SHOPPING, LIGHTS, SIGHTSEEING	£18.00	£16.00
NOV 28	BBC GOOD FOOD SHOW, BIRMINGHAM (excl entry)	£16.00	£14.00
NOV 29	LUDLOW CHRISTMAS FAYRE	£15.00	£13.00
DEC 4	THE MALL, CRIBBS CAUSEWAY (LATE NIGHT)	£12.00	£11.00
DEC 5	BATH CHRISTMAS MARKET	£12.00	£10.00
DEC 6	CHELTENHAM	£12.00	£10.00
DEC 10	BIRMINGHAM – GERMAN XMAS MARKET	£16.00	£14.00
DEC 11	MERRYHILL SHOPPING CENTRE	£16.00	£14.00
DEC 18	THE MALL, CRIBBS CAUSEWAY (LATE NIGHT)	£12.00	£11.00
DEC 13	TRAFFORD CENTRE, MANCHESTER	£18.00	£16.00
DEC 20	BRISTOL CHRISTMAS SHOPPER	£12.00	£11.00

*Note: Child ages differ for entry into certain attractions, please check at time of booking.

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GEM CHRISTMAS PARTY GUIDE

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

ONCE AGAIN, THE VALE HAS A SEAFOOD RESTAURANT WORTHY OF THE NAME...

DINING REVIEW / Loch Fyne Restaurant by DON JOHN

FOR many years, one of the saddest sights for local food-lovers with long memories was the boarded-up, increasingly decrepit appearance of the former Mulligans fish restaurant, just outside Cowbridge.

Under its one-time owners, a local husband and wife team, it had built up a deserved reputation for excellent seafood cuisine, with its patrons drawn to the distinctive eatery from near and far afield, simply by word of mouth – in those far off days before computer blogs and Twitter sites!

After the couple's departure to pastures new, and following a change of direction in the hands of a brewery chain, the landmark building finally closed its doors, and was left to languish alongside the busy A48 road leading to Bridgend.

Until, that is, last year when the building was acquired by the Scottish Loch Fyne Restaurants group, which in a surprisingly short space of time, has not only tastefully restored the iconic Vale venue, but is now set on elevating it to the higher reaches of the specialised seafood niche market.

The new-look Loch Fyne Restaurant opened for the first time on July 21, 2008, under its young general manager, Emma Passmore.

Though still only 24, she has already had four years management experience with the company, including a stint as general manager at Loch Fyne's Henley on Thames restaurant, and also at Leeds – having been picked out as an early high flier during part-time waitress work, while still a student at Bristol university.

Having been sent to launch the new Vale restaurant, she lived in a temporary hut on site for weeks beforehand, while arranging the furnishing of the interior, recruiting staff, and preparing for the big day.

"We had to start the restaurant completely from scratch after the extensive renovation work on the building was complete. It was just a shell," she recalls with a smile.

"They said to me: '*It's all yours, Emma. See you in six weeks*' – and I just had to get on with it…There was no gas supply, all of the furniture and fittings had to be ordered, and I had to interview hundreds of people for 35 jobs!"

Did the prospect of launching the restaurant at the height of a national 'credit crunch' faze her? Was she worried that cash-strapped diners would stay away from the new venture?

"Not really. In fact, before we had even opened, the phones began ringing and they haven't stopped since.

" At the start, we had so many customers that we had to turn some away, in order to ensure the high standards of service we have set ourselves," she says.

Curiosity (and perhaps a touch of nostalgia?) may have been a factor in the surge of interest, though no doubt underpinned by Loch Fyne's reputation, built up from its early days as a humble oyster bar, for a unique approach to sustainable farming of fish stocks, including salmon (scrupulously avoiding the threatened wild variety), from its culinary base in the pristine waters of Scotland's longest sea loch on the west coast.

From there, the streams of fresh fish, oysters, lobsters and various other shellfish, are dispatched to the Vale and other Loch Fyne restaurants, as well as outlets across the UK, and beyond.

The result is a controlled yet eye-catching menu of well-presented, not unreasonably-priced, tasty seafood delights to tempt the most discerning of palates – without necessitating a visit to the bank manager!

The 11 starters on offer vary in price from £5 for mussel, clam and tomato chowder; Scottish herring fillets in four marinades with crème fraiche and pickled cucumber (£6); up to £7 for Loch Fyne oysters on ice with accompaniments.

(For variation, there was even a Scottish smoked venison dish, or goats cheese, wild mushroom and spinach tart).

However, guided by our attentive waitress, Sarah, my choice fell on extremely tasty South Coast peppered mackerel fillets counter-balanced by delicious shallot marmalade and crunchy toast (£5).

My companion opted for Loch Fyne ashet, a mixed trio of salmon, one of which, a chunky hot-smoked mini marvel, was voted "the best I have ever tasted" (£7).

The impressively varied list of main dishes ranged in price from £8 for a pair of Loch Fyne kippers, to chilled lobster served with home-made mayonnaise (half £15, whole £30).

The mouthwatering fillet of steamed Anglesey bass (from the only sea bass farm in Britain) with Loch Fyne scallops and braised fennel (£15) proved an absolute winner; as did the chef's special, a beautifully cooked fillet of bream on a deeply-flavoured green pea risotto (£15).

A glass of crisp Gros-Plant Du Pays Nantais, especially selected in France to complement Loch Fyne oysters, proved a perfect accompaniment to our own fish dishes.

Meals come with freshly-made crusty bread and there are optional side dishes of vegetables or 'proper' thick-cut chips (£4.50).

To finish, there is a selection of visually appealing desserts (£4.50) conjured up by the talented Welsh head chef Gareth Howard, of Ystradowen.

His exceptional panacotta dish with scoop of vanilla ice cream elicited murmurs of approval from across the table, while the generous portion of freshly made bread pudding, still warm from the oven, proved irresistible!

Judging from the buzz of conversation around the animated tables tended by the cheerful young staff, this born-again Vale sea food restaurant seems set fair for a culinary renaissance under Devon lass Emma, assistant managers, Lindsey Phillips, Hannah Freeman, and floor supervisor, Ali Attya.

Currently, Loch Fyne is offering a two-course set lunch for £10. It is also planning a weekly paella night to reflect the head chef's Mediterranean influences, while the Christmas lunch and dinner menu offers three courses for a modest £22.

The restaurant can be contacted on 01446 776070 for full details.

Pictures by Mike Wilcock

Ready to serve....Loch Fyne's head chef, local boy Gareth Howard and general manager Emma Passmore.

In conjunction with Loch Fyne Restaurant, The GEM

is offering one lucky reader a chance to win this fantastic prize – a table for 4 to dine at Loch Fyne Restaurant near Cowbridge (up to the value of £100).

(Valid for 6 months).

All you need to do is answer this simple question:

LOCH FYNE SPECIALISES IN WHAT PARTICULAR FOOD?

A. Poultry • B. Fish • C. Game

Send your answers on a postcard marked: Loch Fyne Dining Competition, together with your name, address and telephone number to:

The Glamorgan GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL. No later than Friday 16th October.

No correspondence will be entered into. Usual competition rules apply.

IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE LOCH FYNE RESTAURANT!

CHECK out their website: *www.lochfyne.com* and in the meantime, here's a quick run-down of what's new.

For £10, eat two courses and a delicious side-order, seven days a week, 12pm-7pm, with a glass of wine for only £2!

Join in and help buy a life-boat for the RNLI by booking a table for the charity dinner on October 15, complete with the Jazz Trio – £30 a head, is a snip for three mouth-watering courses, and a different, carefully selected, glass of wine with each. (*10 per cent goes directly to the RNLI*).

Don't forget, Loch Fyne do take away fish and chips, too; just call in and place your order – *it's simple!*

For all your home culinary delights, take advantage of Loch Fyne's fishmongers, confident in the knowledge that you'll be buying top quality fresh fish – and all this seven days a week!

STOP PRESS! A free bottle of house wine with every two main courses ordered from the a la carte menu, on presentation of the advertisement featured on the right of this page (one redemption per table, valid until November 30).

Happy eating!

HISTORIC INDOOR MARKET IS THE HEARTBEAT OF MAESTEG

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

At the very centre of town life throughout the ages

MAESTEG indoor market, situated beneath the Town Hall, in the very centre of Maesteg has played a central role in the town's history.

It was opened in the 1880s when Maesteg was a thriving mining town which was drawing in workers from all parts of Wales and beyond.

It was important that the town had its own market and also a first-class hall where public performances could be staged and the building, which was paid for by the miners, ticked all the boxes.

The market is also the heart of Maesteg's shopping centre – the one place where people socialise as well as shop, where news and views are exchanged and where customers and stall holders engage in lively discourse.

The market remains vibrant, despite difficult economic times with a healthy demand for stalls. Although it is a small market, it has a surprising variety of goods.

Stalls sell a variety of foodstuffs, including Welsh foods like cockles and laverbread; Carmarthen farm produce, including butter, bacon, cheese and cooked meats; and locally baked bread, cakes tarts and pasties.

A newsagent also offers toys and stationery and other stalls sell jewellery; pet supplies, old fashioned sweets, clothing and Christian books.

A sewing stall provides a valuable service to the community by carrying out repairs and alterations plus dry cleaning.

The bustling indoor market also has its own café where shoppers can enjoy a cuppa or a meal. This café has injected a lot of life into the market hall, giving people a focal point for meeting up with friends.

But there is another dimension to the market – its lively outdoor section, which is a mix of stalls and self contained shop units.

Fresh meat and vegetables are on sale, as well as cards, computer repairs, jewellery repairs, ice cream and refreshments, flowers, baby clothes, jewellery rugs and plants. Further stalls come on Fridays selling a variety of other goods.

There is also an outdoor café and a hairdresser.

All of this is to be found within a very compact area in the town centre. The bus station lies alongside and the town's free car park is only a short distance away, so the market is very accessible to all.

Markets were in many ways, the precursors of supermarkets, offering people choice and variety. But Maesteg's market offers those rare qualities of homeliness and intimacy which are lacking in so many impersonal and characterless modern supermarkets.

The market still has an important role to play, not only as a shopping venue, but also in the community life of what is still a very warm-hearted valley town.

JI

Market opening times: 8am-4pm Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday; 8am-1pm Wednesday; 8am-3pm Saturday.

RUGS

IF a good selection of rugs to choose from, is what you're after, call in and see Mr Jones and Alison, at their showroom in Maesteg Market.

The extra large, real sheepskin rugs are luxurious and come in a rainbow of stylish colours. Everything from outdoor mats to woven runners, are in stock now.

An extensive range of larger lounge rugs in a variety of designer patterns is also displayed and the helpful service is second to none.

Nothing is too much trouble at RUGS, there's something to suit every budget, in every shape and size.

A range of washable cotton rugs make a useful addition to any home and are excellent value for money too.

Don't forget to browse round their wonderful outdoor plant shop, which is very conveniently situated adjacent!

Telephone: 01656 730311.

Sew & Sew

CURTAIN-MAKING of the highest standard is available at Sew & Sew, together with all the other useful services customers have come to expect.

Tailoring and alterations are carried out promptly, ensuring the perfect fit. Bridesmaids' dresses are made to order to customers' exact specification and original style.

Wedding dresses can be altered, giving them a tailor-made look for that special day. The helpful experienced staff at Sew & Sew work round the clock to ensure customer satisfaction and tip-top results.

Kimberley and Marcelle, as well as their right hand girl, Charlotte, look forward to welcoming you soon.

Llynfi Pets & Garden

THE friendly helpful service at Llynfi Pets & Garden continues to bring in the customers and has done for 25 years.

For all your pet supplies, call in and take advantage of the free delivery on sacks.

A good selection of dog food, cat food and bird seed are always in stock. Fishing tackle is also displayed, with an excellent affordable range to choose from.

Don't forget to purchase your stocking fillers for Christmas here, for that favourite pet and/or fishing enthusiast!

Telephone: 01656 733120.

LG Trading

FOR wonderful gift ideas and essentials, LG Trading has an extensive range to choose from.

Leather belts in all sizes and colours, are complemented by a stunning range of interchangeable decorative belt buckles. Watches and costume jewellery are in stock now, as well as more leather goods, including wallets.

A scented range of essential oils and joss sticks are also popular. Zippo lighters, souvenirs and attractive framed pictures are all displayed for you to pick and choose the perfect gift.

Very friendly service makes LG Trading a real pleasure to visit.

Telephone: 07969 824409.

Daily News

ESTABLISHED for 40 years, Ryan Morgan is well known in Maesteg Market – and as well as offering all the things you'd expect from a newsagent's, he also carries a large range of toys.

Why not join his Christmas club and take advantage of paying for your gifts in easy installments?

Ryan's new range of toys includes something to suit all budgets and all age groups too. A warm, friendly welcome is always guaranteed at Daily News.

Telephone 07875 446763.

Forever Green Florist

WE are passionate about flowers, with more than 20 years' experience in the industry. Every stem is carefully selected. Let's keep it deeply personal!

Whether it's a cheer-you-up bunch of flowers, a full wedding, a special occasion, or a tribute in memory of a dearly loved family member or friend.

The best people to help you, are Forever Green Florists, who will be designing your gift with an abundance of knowledge on seasonal delights.

Let's keep it deeply personal; we do!

Baby Bubbles has everything you need!

EVERYTHING you need for baby and toddler; specialising in special occasion dresses and outfits for girls and boys aged 0-2 years.

Justine is always on hand to find the perfect outfit for your christening or wedding needs.

Traditional rompers and frilly dresses are always in stock, together with the popular 'Cariad Bach' collection. Cosy-toes are available, too, and outfits by 'Pretty Originals'.

A range of cots, cribs and bedding are on display, as well as hand-crocheted items including shawls, cardies, hats and booties.

Don't miss the little fur stoles for girls! Moses baskets are also available.

Open 9am-4pm Monday-Friday (half day Wednesday). Closed Saturday, but open in Rheola Market, neath.

Telephone 07920 118636.

Maesteg Animal Welfare Society needs your help

IN 1985, three people in Maesteg wanted to improve animal welfare and so Maesteg Animal Welfare Society (MAWS) was born.

Maws is a small charity run entirely by volunteers, most funds are generated from our charity shop in 4 Church Street, Maesteg. Please come to see us if you are in the area (opposite the bus station).

We rehome many cats and dogs throughout the valleys, Bridgend and the Vale and we are desperate for new homes. *Please contact 01656 721496 or 01656 653456 if you can offer a home.*

Any donations, bric-a-brac or any unwanted items, please call our shop 01656 7389877 or 01656 721496.

MAESTEG ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY

Kittens, young and older cats – All needing a new family!

All cats have been neutered and microchipped

Tel: (01656) 721496

All our work is funded by Charity Shops. We sell bric-a-brac, books, clothes and all items of furniture and we can collect.

Tel: 01656 737827 or 01656 653456

www.maesteganimalrescue.co.uk

Anybody who wants clothes collecting, please contact the above telephone numbers

HISTORIC INDOOR MARKET IS THE HEARTBEAT OF MAESTEG

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Carmarthenshire Dairy Produce

TRADING for 30 years, it's easy to see why Carmarthenshire Dairy Produce continues to prosper.

Wonderful professional service, combined with the highest-quality cooked meats and Collier cheeses, make it a favourite with shoppers, old and new.

A mouth watering selection of home-cooked pies are available, fresh every day, including lamb and mint, steak and kidney and their bestseller – corned beef pie.

Fresh free-range eggs are always available too.

Why not join the Christmas club and order your cooked turkey crown now?

Stuffed cooked meat joints are also available, requiring no preparation, just the task of eating! Call in and see Mr Harris and you won't be disappointed.

Telephone: 07966 910480.

Visit Sweets and Treats

AFTER a successful first year, Ann Harris is looking forward to welcoming customers old and new; a tempting array of confectionery is available, including 120 different weigh-out sweets!

There is even a delicious sugar-free range in stock now. Sweets and Treats specialises in occasion chocolates too – Halloween, Christmas, birthdays, something to suit everyone's requirements.

Welsh Rocks and sweets by Brays are also stocked and are very popular, together with a mouth watering selection of Joe's Ice cream.

One visit and you'll be back for more!

Cwtchi Mamas

FOR three years, we have been trading as 'The Snatch', in Maesteg Indoor Market, selling good wholesome food, using organic and/or locally produced ingredients.

The addition of a seating area means that our business is changing to accommodate demand. We think this can only be a good thing for the market.

New business, new name! – CWTCHI MAMAS.

In addition to a wide range of meals, snacks, cakes and deli items, we will also be displaying work for sale by local artists.

Internet access will be available for our customers' use. Good food will, as always, be prepared and cooked from scratch on the premises.

Open: 8am-4pm Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday/Saturday and 8am-1pm Wednesday.

Buffets and parties catered for.

Telephone: 01656 739471.

Maesteg Computer Repair

RAY'S your man for computer sales and repairs. He'll even recycle your old one.

He is open 10am-5pm Monday-Friday (half-day Wednesday) and 10am-4pm Saturday.

Don't forget to call in for a fast friendly service with all your questions answered. Email queries, if you like, to: maestegcomputerrepair@hotmail.com

Recommended on FaceBook! You'll find Maesteg Computer Repair at Unit 4, Maesteg Outdoor Market. Telephone: 01656 735291.

After 10 successful years in business, including three years at the market, you can be confident of a professional, helpful service.

Y Siop Fach

THERE has always been a cockle counter at the front of Maesteg Market and Y Siop Fach is keeping the tradition going very successfully.

Specialising in Welsh products, a wonderful selection of delicious Penclawdd cockles, laverbread and other fish delicacies are delivered fresh every day.

Homemade Welsh jams and chutneys are always in stock and very popular, together with the Parson's Pickled range from Llanelli.

Even celebrity chef Jamie Oliver recommends Halen Mon Sea Salt, which can be purchased at Y Siop Fach!

Add to that a selection of good Welsh cheeses to choose from, and it's easy to understand why customers come from far and wide.

(Closed Mondays)

Joe's @ Jinky's Ice-cream Parlour

CALL in and order mouth-watering ice-cream sundaes created by Rebekah, as well as hot waffles, healthy smoothies, (worth two of your five-a-day), yoggies and milkshakes!

A new business to Maesteg Market, Joe's@Jinky's is a taste sensation. Indulge yourself and the kids with an affordable treat, not forgetting Halloween and a chance to eat some spooky, wooky delights!

Owner Barrie Jenkins only sells Joe's Ice-cream direct from the makers!

Winter: Open 12pm-4.30pm Monday-Friday (half day Wednesday) and 10am-4.15pm Saturday.

Summer: Open 9am-5pm Monday-Saturday (half day Wednesday).

Local opticians eye cash target for guide dogs

SPECSAVERS in Maesteg is calling on local support for a nationwide effort to raise £250,000 to fund and train 25 new guide dog puppies – one for every year that the company has been in business.

The opticians, with a store on Talbot Street, is using Guide Dog Week, which runs until October 11, to launch its fundraising commitment to the charity Guide Dogs.

All 650 Specsavers stores around the country are involved as part of the chain's 25th anniversary.

Money raised will help Guide Dogs' ongoing commitment to providing services for blind and partially-sighted people in Maesteg.

Nick King, store director of Specsavers in Maesteg, said: "We're thrilled to be working with Guide Dogs this year and hope that through this partnership we not only help people who suffer from sight loss, but also educate young people and children about the importance of eye health."

Mr King continued: "Our staff are really enthusiastic about raising the profile of Guide Dogs and the support it offers children and young people with sight loss. We hope the local community gets behind this campaign to raise much needed funds."

Nick Hardy, Guide Dogs' head of regional fundraising said: 'Many children with sight loss struggle to make friends and develop life skills.

"Guide Dogs is working to change this by developing services that give confidence and independence to blind and partially-sighted children and young people."

"We're delighted that Specsavers has chosen Guide Dogs as its new charity partner, and look forward to working with them over the coming year."

Ath under-7s fight hard against older opposition

BRIDGEND Athletic under-7s welcomed Aberavon Green Stars to Newbridge Fields.

With Aberavon only having 10 players, the young Ath side had to play against a mixed side of under-7s and under-8s.

The game started well for the Ath, attacking on many occasions, but Aberavon were strong in defence. Aberavon pressed, looked sharp in attack and got the first try of the game with some strong running. The second followed soon after.

Jordan Gittins took a flat pass and raced through the Aberavon defence to score a good try for the Ath. The young Ath side tried to press Aberavon into making mistakes, but two more tries followed in quick succession and, on the half time whistle, the Ath trailed four to one.

The second half was a story of attack and counter attack as both sides pushed for the win. The Ath came close on many occasions, only to be stopped by the Aberavon defence, and the same went for Aberavon, who were stopped on numerous occasions by the Aths defence.

Aberavon proved to be that little bit stronger as the game came to a close and scored two more tries from dropped balls by the Ath as they to tried to score themselves.

Both teams played some excellent rugby and really enjoyed the game.

Result: Athletic 1, Aberavon Green Stars 6.

Player-of-the-match went to Fynn Mordecai for a good all-round game .

The squad: Oliver Gibbs, Connor Lees, Ryley Howells, Ellis Penman, Euan Rees, Fynn Mordecai, Ieuan Pippin, Jordan Gittins, Lloyd Anthony, Lloyd Bennett, Callum Taylor, Daniel Elias and Thomas Lewis.

Under-8s reply

AFTER watching the under-7s it was a chance for the under-8s to step up and prove themselves.

The game started at an incredible pace with both sides playing some really good rugby. The Ath got on the score sheet first with a strong run by Archie Burnett to squeeze over in the corner.

Aberavon came straight back to score and nearly scored a few more times, but for the strong Ath defence. Deep into the first half, with both sides pressing, Aberavon put themselves in front with a try from deep in their own half.

Oliver Raynor was replaced by Dewi Harding after injuring himself and, on the last play of the half, after a couple of good passes, Dewi raced down field to even the game and also score his 50th try for the club.

The second half saw the Ath make four changes to their side and it proved to a good move. Aberavon were overpowered with strong defence and great attacking play.

Dewi Harding got his second, followed by Morgan Bennett and Jack Pitts, who both got on the score sheet. Aberavon pushed every time they had the ball but could not get past the Ath defence and, from a turnover, Mason Edwards raced down the line to score a good solo try.

With time nearly up, the Ath had the final say in the game and Mason Hughes scored to seal another good win for the Ath.

Result: Athletic 7, Aberavon Green Stars 2.

Player of the match went to Archie Burnett who had a solid game in attack and defence.

The squad: Archie Burnett, Bobby Bromley, Dafydd Hitchings, Daniel Leyshon, Dewi Harding, Emyr Anthony, Isaac Watkins, Iwan Hill ,Jack Pitts, Mason Edwards, Mason Hughes, Morgan Bennett, Oliver Raynor and Sam Ralph.

AB

FARTHINGS JOINS CULINARY STABLE

FARTHINGS in Cowbridge will be joining a renowned stable of established eating places, now that the new owners have finalised the purchase.

As The GEM briefly reported last week, Choiceproduce Ltd has bought all three Farthings operations, the deli, restaurant and event catering.

The company already operates the well-known Woods Brasserie in Cardiff, The Old Swan in Llantwit Major, and The New Conway, in Pontcanna, Cardiff.

A spokeswoman for the company told The GEM: "Natalie Dobson, the previous owner, will remain as a consultant for up to a year, to ensure a smooth transition.

"Rudy Filliau will be joining as manager of Farthings, having previously managed the restaurant two years ago, and he will be supported by his head chef, Rachid Azouz."

Woods Brasserie, opened in 1999 and is now considered to be a well-established Cardiff restaurant, renowned for its excellent food and customer service.

The Old Swan Inn, in Llantwit Major, was purchased in March 2008 and the New Conway, Pontcanna, was opened in November 2008 and recently became the first Cardiff eatery to be in the Michelin Pub Guide.

Sean Murphy, director of Choiceproduce, said: "We are very excited about Farthings, and the direction in which the company is heading.

"Each of our establishments is unique, but all are venues with great food."

Local rugby clubs combine to form 'wandering' youth team

A NEW rugby team, Vale Wanderers, has been formed and it is a collaboration between Barry, Dinas Powys and Llantwit Major Rugby Clubs.

It will see under-13s boys playing under the name of Vale Wanderers, yet still registered with their parent clubs.

The aim is to enable the clubs to retain their players through to youth level, while not having a full side at that age group.

Miff Connelly, of Barry RFC said: "It is hoped that with the boys playing regular games as part of a full team, they will want to stay at their club rather than move to a larger team. Junior rugby is the lifeblood of youth and senior rugby and the clubs are very keen to retain these boys.

"With five coaches, the lads have a lot of coaching experience on hand and the boys had a great time getting to know each other."

She added: "The team will be a true wandering side, playing games at all three clubs, and has already been entered in the district tournament."

Any past or present players interested in joining can contact Miff on 01446 710 482. Training is on a Wednesday night at Barry RFC, on the Reservoir Field from 6pm.

First run-out for Vale Wanderers

THE recently-formed Vale Wanderers played their first match against Llandaff North under-13s and despite being on the wrong end of a 45-12 scoreline, they played with a great deal of spirit.

The Wanderers are an amalgamation of the under-13 teams from Llantwit Major, Dinas Powys and Barry.

The game started with Llandaff North proving that they are a well-organised team and a couple of slick back moves saw them sprint in to a deserved 12-0 lead.

However, this seemed to galvanise the Wanderers boys and from turnover ball deep in their own half the ball was quickly recycled to outstanding No 8 Rhys Forse, who shook off tacklers during a 60-metre run to the line to score under the posts. The try was converted by Connor Lewis.

From the re-start, more powerful running from the Wanderers pack saw a drive over the line which looked to all involved like a second try. However, the referee decided that the ball had been held up and a scrum was awarded.

The second half opened with Llandaff North gaining the ascendancy up front and they scored a couple of tries to stretch their lead. The Wanderers boys were beginning to make some basic errors, mainly due the fact that they were playing together for the first time.

Just as the home team thought they were in for an easy ride for the rest of the game, up popped powerhouse No 8 Forse again. This time the run in was 'only' from half way and once again defenders were left clutching at thin air. The conversion was missed but the boys were back in the game. Then tiredness set in and the home team stretched clear to make the final score 45-12.

Wanderers squad: Matthew Bennett, Dan Davies, Rhys Evans, Jack Fleckney, Rhys Forse, Richard Hall, George Kynasten, Sam Lewis, Scott Mason, Curtis O'Connell, Jordan Schembri, Ben Harler-Witts, Billy Jones, Callum Howell, Lewys Morgan. Bradley Boyland, Hugo Billington.

TJ

'FLYING VET' TO FACE THIRD ASSESSMENT

VALE 'Flying Vet' Maurice Kirk, who has been held in custody since June 25 on charges involving an antique firearm, has been ordered by a court to remain at the Caswell Clinic in Bridgend for a third period of 28 days

MAURICE KIRK

Mr Kirk, aged 64, whose home is at St Donats, was originally remanded in custody to Cardiff Prison on June 25, to await trial on charges of unlawfully possessing the antique World War 1 firearm (a 1916 Lewis machine gun) and attempting to sell it without authority.

A day earlier, on June 24, he had been released on bail by Barry magistrates.

However, the prosecution appealed against his release at Cardiff Crown Court and he was then remanded in custody at Cardiff prison.

At subsequent hearings, Mr Kirk was twice remanded to the Caswell Clinic in Bridgend for assessment by psychiatrists.

In the latest hearing at Cardiff Crown Court last Thursday, October 1, Mr Kirk was told he had to remain for further assessment at the clinic.

An application for bail was refused, and the Recorder of Cardiff, Judge Nicholas Cooke QC, adjourned the case until Monday, October 26

Mr Kirk plans to conduct his own defence to the charges and has been unsuccessful in his attempts to be remanded on bail so that he can prepare his case.

Ricky Gervais comedy a funny yet mundane film

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

WHAT a difference 10 years makes – to paraphrase the popular song; after all, in 1999 Ricky Gervais was a comedian whose biggest claim to fame was replacing Ali G on Channel 4's 11 *O'Clock Show*, which hardly had the highest profile on television.

Fast forward to 2009, and Gervais is unarguably one of the highest-profile comedians in the world, the UK success of *The Office* parlaying into global recognition for the performer.

Having dipped his toes into the waters of film with a range of cameos, he delivered his first starring role in last year's *Ghost Town*, and follows it up with a film that he also co-wrote and co-directed, titled *The Invention of Lying*.

Gervais plays Mark Bellison, who lives in a world where human beings haven't evolved the gene for lying. When Mark is fired from his job and is threatened with being evicted, he suddenly discovers a propensity for spouting untruths – an ability that has both its good points and bad points...

Given his lofty rise in stature, there seems to have been somewhat of a backlash against Ricky Gervais.

Whether his work has lost focus as he has steadily climbed the ladder of recognition, or there is an element of smugness to his work, it seems the comedian has the knives out for him.

The Invention of Lying isn't going to change many perceptions, yet it still makes for a funny, if ultimately very slight, piece of work.

As he is on starring, co-writing and co-directing duties, Gervais is very much the key ingredient here, and his work is competent to good throughout all of his duties.

As a performer, he gives himself the most difficult of tasks – trying to deliver a character that is very much a blank slate.

Gervais' best method of performance is being himself, something he does here and which proves to be both successful and somewhat of an issue.

The success aspect derives from how funny you find the comedian, and if you do, then you won't be disappointed, as he riffs on his persona to good comedic effect; however, the flipside to that is that he comes across as too bland and uninteresting to really register.

Gervais doesn't quite have the charisma to pull off leading man duties, and while he shows a degree of range in his performance that hint there is more than merely a comedy string to his bow, it is a lead performance that is lacking somewhat.

He fares better in the writing and directing stakes, being assisted in both by Matthew Robinson, who is making his bow here.

Script-wise, the film is funny, with a clever way in one liners and gags that link to Gervais' roots, while the concept allows some neat jokes on the nature of human behaviour when lying is taken out of the equation (the opening joke in particular both coarse yet thoroughly amusing).

However, building upon the concept isn't so easy, and while Gervais and Robinson have fun with the comedic aspect, they try a little too hard to show the consequences of what happens when Mark starts telling lies – it's a noble intention to add depth to what could have been just plain funny, but it doesn't quite come off, with several jabs at religion feeling particularly ill-conceived.

Direction-wise, the film looks good and services the material to its best ability, but again lacks any real degree of verve or excitement. There are a few sight jokes that work well (the use of two pizza boxes as tablets) but the direction is merely there to help along the film, rather than create any indelible imagery.

With Gervais' reputation, the cast list reads like a *'Who's Who'* of comedic talent, yet the film itself seems to be an exercise in how to waste so much comedic talent.

With the likes of Tina Fey, Jonah Hill, Jeffrey Tambor, Christopher Guest and Jason Bateman all given roles that merely involve them popping up and then vanishing again, it feels a touch like using these performers, not because he has to, but because he can.

That none of these performers is saddled with a memorable character merely exacerbates the issue, with Jennifer Garner particularly ill-served as the love interest that comes across as a pain rather than the real love of Gervais' character's life.

All in all, *The Invention of Lying* feels like something of a misstep for Ricky Gervais. While he will no doubt go on to make more films, the nagging question does remain after watching this comedy – does he have what it takes to conquer the big screen?

VERDICT – A funny yet underwhelming slice of cinema, *The Invention of Lying* is Ricky Gervais' vehicle and he just about manages to avoid crashing it.

Although intermittently humorous, there isn't enough here, despite the clever premise and all-star cast, to stop the film being anything better than run of the mill. *Average*.

Tim's loss is Evan's gain

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

LLANCARFAN trainer Evan Williams has had plenty to smile about recently.

His horses are hitting top form and last Friday at Hexham he landed a 24-1 double with *MickMacMagoole* and *Blacktoft*. The former, ridden by champion jockey A P McCoy, got home by a head from *Lahib The Fifth* and the latter, partnered by stable jockey Paul Moloney, won by seven lengths from the well-fancied *Nocturnal Knight*.

One of Evan's owners, Roger Gambarini, who owns the promising novice hurdler *Tayarat*, successfully appealed against the decision of the Plumpton racecourse stewards who had placed his horse second after winning at Plumpton recently.

They had awarded the race to the Tim Vaughan-trained *Rocky's Choice* on the grounds that *Tayarat* had interfered with *Rocky's Choice*. However, the British Horse Racing disciplinary board ruled that the interference was accidental and had not improved *Tayarat's* placing, thereby reversing the result in favour of the Williams-trained horse.

Leading National Hunt trainer, Tim Vaughan, of Aberthin, will be the guest speaker at the West Wales Point-To-Point Area Awards Dinner/Dance at the Nant-y-ffin Hotel, Llandissilio, on Friday, October 23.

Tim, who has saddled more than 50 winners this season, will also be presenting the area awards. Tickets for the black tie evening costs £28 and can be obtained from the area secretary, Beverley Thomas, telephone 01437 767919.

Ogmore's Christian Williams, riding Lawney Hill's *Rock Me*, won the handicap hurdle race at Fontwell on Saturday.

I am writing a series of books on Welsh horse racing which will include jump racing, flat racing, point-to-point and unlicensed 'flapping' horse racing, and would like to hear from anyone with photographs of owners, trainers, jockeys, horses and so forth for possible inclusion in the books. Please telephone me at 029 2073 6438 or email me at leebrian@btinternet.com

Another winner for Tim

ABERTHIN trainer Tim Vaughan landed his 54th winner of the season when *Moorlands Teri* landed the Henry Mein Novices' Hurdle at Uttoxeter on Sunday.

Partnered by Richard Johnson, *Moorlands Teri*, the odds-on favourite, won by half-a-length from *Feel The Force*.

Volunteers are sought to help Rangers

RANGERS at Porthkerry Country Park in Barry are seeking local volunteers for winter work parties.

Vale Council country park ranger Mel Stewart explained: "Vital management work is carried out at Porthkerry during the winter months. Tasks such as putting up bat boxes, coppicing in woodlands and clearing scrub can look quite destructive but they are necessary to maintain and enhance the biodiversity of the park.

"Everyone is welcome to join the volunteer work parties on the first Sunday morning of the month, beginning on November 1."

For further information contact the ranger service at Porthkerry on 01446 733589 or email porthkerry@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Volunteers are being sought for winter work parties at Porthkerry Country Park in Barry.

WRITE IN!

● WE welcome your news, views and sports items. Please send them to the Editorial Department, The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL Email: ggem@internet-today.co.uk

Out and About with The GEM

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE

Rhoose art

THE Rhoose art group will be holding their annual exhibition and sale ofpaintings on Saturday, October 10, from 11am-5pm, at the Community Hall,Stuart Road, Rhoose.

On show will be all levels of work, from beginners to intermediate level.

Everyone welcome. Activity corner for children, with paints.

CAOS concert

THE Cowbridge Amateur Operatic Society present their autumn concert, *Show Boat* (concert version) and *Gilbert & Sullivan at Sea*, on October 10, at Cowbridge Town Hall and on October 17, at Pontyclun Institute Athletic Club, Pontyclun at 7.30pm.

Tickets £7 available from the box office (0845 4592605) or can be purchased from Davies Newsagents, Cowbridge; Chris Williams Opticians, Llantwit Major; or at the door.

Jumble sale

THERE will be a jumble sale on Saturday, October 10, at St Mary's Church, Holton Road, Barry, at 10.30am (refreshments available).

Spiritual church holds talks

BARRY Spiritual Church and Centre at Buttrills Road is holding a demonstration of mediumship with Glennys Hannon on Sunday, October 12 at 7pm.

Fibromyalgia group

THE next meeting of the Vale of Glamorgan Fibromyalgia Group is to be held at the Barry Public Library, King Square, on Monday, October 12 from 11.30am-1pm.

All who suffer from Fibromyalgia or want to learn more about the condition, are welcome.

Volunteers sought

VALE Volunteer Bureau's outreach officer, Joe Newbury, will be available to give advice and information about volunteering in the Vale on the following dates:

October 13, Llantwit Major Library, 11am-1pm; October 17, Cowbridge Leisure Centre, 12.30pm-2.30pm; October 20, Penarth Library, 11am-1pm; October 28, Cowbridge Leisure Centre, 11am-1pm; October 31, Llantwit Major Library, 11am-1pm.

Evening of clairvoyance

CADOXTON Christian Spiritualist Church, Kenilworth Road, Barry, is holding a 'Special Evening of Clairvoyance' with Trish Rees on October 16.

Doors open at 6.30pm and the service starts at 7pm. Donations at the door in aid of church restoration. All are welcome.

arc coffee

THE Vale branch of the Arthritis Research Campaign (arc) is holding its annual coffee morning on Saturday, October 17, in St Helen's Church Hall, Barry, between 10am-12pm, in aid of the millions of people that suffer with this debilitating condition.

Stalls include prize-a-time, cakes, cards, Christmas crds, arc goods and raffle. Tickets £1.

Contact Fred Johnson, the regional fundraising manager, on 01446 722957, 07756 157799, or by email: f.johnson@arc.org.uk.

Lib Dems meet

THE Vale Liberal Democrats will be holding their annual general meeting at Barry Town Football Club, at 7.30pm, on Tuesday, November 3, in readiness for the general election. All potential and registered members are cordially invited to attend.

Flower show

BARRY and District Chrysanthemum Society's annual show will be on November 11, 1.30pm-5pm, at Salem Baptist Church Hall, Beryl Road, Barry.

Entrants should contact K Williams, 27 Regent Street, Barry, or telephone 01446 741733 or 029 2054 4119.

New Osteoporosis group is formed at Barry

THE National Osteoporosis Society has established its latest Welsh support group in Barry to offer support and information to people living in the area.

The next meeting, is at 7pm today (Thursday, October 8) at Barry's Highlight Park Community Centre.

It will give people in the area affected by osteoporosis, the opportunity to meet others in similar positions.

There will be a wide range of free information available.

To find out more, contact Gwyneth Thomas, country support officer for Wales, on 029 2089 2140.

Fairtrade evening

ON October 16 at Trinity Church, Porthcawl, there will be an evening devoted to Fairtrade.

Zimbabwean Martha Musonza, a Fairtrade producer from Africa who lives in Wales, will be speaking about her work with Love Zimbabwe, an ethical trading company. Martha is also the schools coordinator for Fairtrade Wales.

Admission free.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan lottery draw number 585.

● **£2000:** 842200. ● **£500:** 818680 ● **£100:** 866940. ● **£50:** 415093. ● **£10:** 515100, 700805, 359492, 710188, 273444, 571479, 126590, 128006, 418523, 748213, 643488, 734582, 440427, 423693, 756814, 809825, 409777, 233093, 307861, 711100.. ● **£5:** 748132, 748535, 724580, 885706, 663868, 421030, 684802, 364327, 454289, 560020, 131381,468371, 715843, 109007, 197058, 224517, 597995, 390038, 419679, 340614, 278204, 120591, 711220, 307442, 168966, 383721, 395005, 805872, 607822, 448653.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information, please telephone 02920 672062.

Express yourself in Penarth

LOCAL artists are being urged to enter a competition to be run jointly by the Washington Gallery and Penarth Library.

The 'Express Yourself' Welsh libraries arts competition is funded by the Welsh Assembly Government. It has the theme of 'Libraries' and invites individuals, schools and further education groups to be involved.

Entries can be presented as visual art, short film or creative writing. From a 'long-list' a judging panel will select 18 finalists, with winners announced at the Senedd in Cardiff on Monday, February 22.

Entries will be accepted until December 1. Forms are available at both Penarth Library and the Washington.

Penarth librarian, Marcus Payne, said the competition was a great opportunity for anyone to create a work of art or writing or film that can inspire people to visit the library.

The Washington Gallery's director, Maggie Knight, said she was delighted to be able to work with Penarth Library and hoped that, as a result of the competition, entries could later be exhibited in the gallery.

GEM Firefighter stamp winners

THE winners of our recent stamp competition were:

Owen Howell, North Cornelly; S Jones, St Mary Hill; Anne King, Pencoed; Neil Taylor, Cefn Cribwr; Anne Baxter, St Athan; Brian Fisher, Dinas Powys; Edna Ann James, Ogmore Vale; Elaine Jones, Cowbridge; D Wilson, Llantwit Major; Lisa Wells, Barry; Saffron Frowen, Tondu; J James, Boverton; Doris Allen, Cowbridge; Mr W Haynes, Barry; Faith Perry, Cogan; Shan Llewellyn, Coychurch; Joanne Hurst, Ely; M Thomas, Barry; Mr P Dalton, Tondu; Mildred Trigg Knight, Bridgend.

Congratulations to you all.

Male choir in need of singers

VALE Male Voice Choir is searching for choristers.

The choir, which is now into its fourth year, while performing some traditional male voice choral pieces also performs songs to guitar and banjo, which appeals to a much wider audience.

The repertoire also includes songs from musicals and films, as well as pop and folk songs.

The emphasis is on the enjoyment of singing and music and we would welcome any new members. No musical knowledge is required as all that is needed is real enthusiasm and commitment.

Don't worry if you don't have the best singing voice. We know there are a lot of men who love to sing for enjoyment but can become quite disheartened if they have been 'rejected' by other choirs.

The aim of the Vale Male Voice Choir is to bring them together and develop their talents.

The choir has performed concerts in a number of venues, for disabled people, pensioners, sheltered housing schemes and also helped to raise over £2,000 for Breast Cancer earlier this year.

We welcome men of any age to our rehearsals at St David's Methodist Church, Colcot Road, Barry on Monday evenings from 7.30pm to 10.00pm.

Anyone interested in finding out more should contact the secretary, Mr Cliff Ward on 02920 568151 or Mr Vic Finn on 01446 405656.

PETER ROBERTSON

VALE PACT MEETINGS

LLANDOUGH PACT, Memorial Hall, October 7, 7pm.
PLYMOUTH PACT, Paget Rooms, October 7, 7pm.
PETERSTON SUPER ELY PACT, Pendoylan School, October 8, 7.45pm.
GIBBONSDOWN PACT, Communities First Office, Aberaeron Close, Barry, October 10, 2.15pm.
ST HILARY coffee and chat meeting, October 13, Village Hall, St Hilary, 11am.
ST AUGUSTINE'S PACT, Windsor public house, October 21, 7pm.
CORNERSWELL PACT, Cogan Leisure Centre, October 22, 7pm.

If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life, but are unable to attend a meeting, contact your local Neighbourhood Policing or log onto www.ourbobby.com

Win! Jethro Tickets and DVD

Jethro

Saturday 24 October, 7.30pm

Tickets: £18.00

Pure cheek the Cornish way with Comedy Legend Jethro.

With his own very unique style of delivery, Jethro has got to be one of the cheekiest comedians around, and continues to sell out yet another tour with his mischievous repertoire of adult material. You never know what tales Jethro will come out with, but one thing is for sure, the best ones will involve his renowned friends Denzel Penberthy, Slipalong Trevaskis and Bill Pedureare.

With DVD release's like 'Live In Cuckoo Land' selling just under a quarter of a million copies in it's first 2 months of release, it is no surprise that this Cheeky Cornishman performs to packed houses at UK theatres every year.

Jethro has long established himself in the entertainment business as one of the busiest and most popular comics this country has ever known, even though there are still many people around the country who have never seen or heard of him before. Have you ever seen him seen him before? If not, isn't it about time that you experienced him for yourself. Join us at the Memorial Hall and Theatre on Saturday 24th October for a night of belly-aching laughter.

To win a pair of tickets and a DVD for Jethro, just answer this question:

Q: Complete the DVD title "Live In ..... Land"

Answer .....

Name .....

Address .....

..... Post Code ..... Tel Number .....

Email Address .....

Competition Rules:

1. Closing date for entries: 16th October, 2009.
2. Winners will be randomly selected and informed on 16th October, 2009.
3. Competition prize is a pair of tickets for Jethro and DVD.
4. Employees of BTC of MH&T are not eligible to take part in this competition.

Send your answers to: Jethro Competition, Memorial Hall and Theatre, Gladstone Road, Barry, CF62 8NA or email us at boxoffice@barrymemo.co.uk with your answer

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ST ATHAN: 2 bedroom houses Partridge Road or similar 4 bedroom detached Higher End for genuine cash buyer up to £250K.

CARDIFF BAY : 2 bedroom apartment within Sovereign Quay.

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Woodside Hamlet, Llantwit Major

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Whiteways, Llantwit Major

2 bed end of link **£125,000**

St David's Crescent, St Athan

3 bed link detached with garage **£149,950**

Caer Worgan, Llantwit Major

3 bed detached with conservatory **£155,000**

Glebeland Place, St Athan

3 bed semi on large plot **£159,950**

Tennyson Way, Llantwit Major

2 bed semi bungalow in sought after location **£169,000**

Cardigan Crescent, Llantwit Major

4 bed detached with garage. **£209,000**

Rhoose 01446 711900

Maes Lindys, Rhoose Point — NEW

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Old Chapel House, Penmark — NEW

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Heol Leubren, Barry

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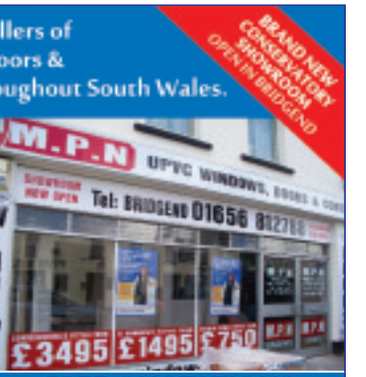

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NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

Developments in Conservation Areas

Application No: 2009/00889/FUL
Proposal: Change of Use application for the Knap Hotel, Barry from Hotel (C1) to residential (C3) use including demolition of 'link' elements, creating 4 dwelling houses with associated garden areas and parking
Location: The Knap Hotel, 2-4, The Parade, Barry
Conservation Area: Barry (Marine)

Listed Building Consent

Application No: 2009/00901/LBC
Proposal: (a) replacement of dining room glazed roof and timber screen (b) replacement of render panels below windows with rebated stonework (c) external repointing of stone (d) replacement and reconstruction of external stone steps
Location: Castleton Court, Castleton Road, St. Athan
Listed Building: Grade II

Application No: 2009/00954/LBC
Proposal: Erection of 2 signs. 1 free standing sign and individual Toby Carvery lettering above front doorway
Location: Barons Court, Penarth Road, Penarth
Listed Building: Grade II

Development that might affect the setting of a Listed Building

Application No: 2009/00939/ADV
Proposal: Erect two signs. One free standing sign and individual Toby Carvery lettering above front doorway
Location: Barons Court, Penarth Road, Penarth
Listed Building: Affecting the Barons Court, Grade II

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER, 1995

Application(s) that may be of General Public Interest

Application No: 2009/00923/FUL
Proposal: Redevelopment of redundant light industrial site with demolition of office and storage buildings and replacement with 3 no new 2/3 storey B1 office buildings
Location: Site adjacent to Bevan House, Penarth Road, Cardiff

Application No: 2009/00946/OUT
Proposal: Development of vacant land at Barry Waterfront for residential (C3), retail (A1), cafes, bars and restaurants (A3), hotel (C1), and offices (B1). Development of vehicular and pedestrian/cycle access including a new link road, re-grading of site to form new site levels and associated infrastructure works, parking, servicing, landscaping, public realm and public open space provision
Location: Land at Barry Waterfront adjacent to Dock No. 1, Barry

Application No: 2009/00947/OUT
Proposal: Development of vacant land at Barry Waterfront for residential (C3), retail (A1), cafes, bars and restaurants (A3), hotel (C1), and offices (B1). Development of vehicular and pedestrian/cycle access including a new link road, re-grading of site to form new site levels and associated infrastructure works, parking, servicing, landscaping, public realm and public open space provision
Location: Land at Barry Waterfront adjacent to Dock No. 1, Barry

Application(s) which might affect a Public Right of Way

Application No: 2009/00946/OUT
Proposal: Development of vacant land at Barry Waterfront for residential (C3), retail (A1), cafes, bars and restaurants (A3), hotel (C1), and offices (B1). Development of vehicular and pedestrian/cycle access including a new link road, re-grading of site to form new site levels and associated infrastructure works, parking, servicing, landscaping, public realm and public open space provision
Location: Land at Barry Waterfront adjacent to Dock No. 1, Barry

Application No: 2009/00947/OUT
Proposal: Development of vacant land at Barry Waterfront for residential (C3), retail (A1), cafes, bars and restaurants (A3), hotel (C1), and offices (B1). Development of vehicular and pedestrian/cycle access including a new link road, re-grading of site to form new site levels and associated infrastructure works, parking, servicing, landscaping, public realm and public open space provision.
Location: Land at Barry Waterfront adjacent to Dock No. 1, Barry

Application(s) submitted with an Environmental Statement

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8

Proposed development at Land at Barry Waterfront adjacent to Dock No. 1, Barry.

I give notice that Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd, Persimmon Homes Ltd and BDW are applying to The Vale of Glamorgan Council for planning permission to develop vacant land at Barry Waterfront for residential (C3), retail (A1), cafes, bars and restaurants (A3), hotel (C1), and offices (B1). Development of vehicular and pedestrian/cycle access including a new link road, re-grading of site to form new site levels and associated infrastructure works, parking, servicing, landscaping, public realm and public open space provision.

The proposal has been submitted with an environmental statement which can be inspected at the address given below. Members of the public may obtain copies of the Non Technical Summary of this environmental statement at a charge of £15.00 excluding VAT from Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners, 1st Floor Westville House, Fitzalan Court, Cardiff. CF24 0EL so long as stocks last. An electronic CD-ROM version of the environmental statement can also be purchased from Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners for the cost of £50.00 excluding VAT. Please contact Maria Wilson on 02920 435 880.

Members of the public may inspect copies of:

- The application.
- The plans.
- The environmental statement.
- Other documents submitted with the application.

at the address given below during all reasonable hours until 29 October, 2009.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below by 29 October 2009 quoting reference 2009/00946/OUT.

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8

Proposed development at Land at Barry Waterfront adjacent to Dock No. 1, Barry.

I give notice that Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd, Persimmon Homes Ltd and BDW are applying to The Vale of Glamorgan Council for planning permission to develop vacant land at Barry Waterfront for residential (C3), retail (A1), cafes, bars and restaurants (A3), hotel (C1), and offices (B1). Development of vehicular and pedestrian/cycle access including a new link road, re-grading of site to form new site levels and associated infrastructure works, parking, servicing, landscaping, public realm and public open space provision.

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Members of the public may inspect copies of:

- The application.
- The plans.
- The environmental statement.
- Other documents submitted with the application.

at the address given below during all reasonable hours until 29 October, 2009.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below by 29 October 2009 quoting reference 2009/00947/OUT.

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 14 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below.

Dated: 8 October, 2009

Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation

The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office,
Barry Docks,
Barry, CF63 4RT

Situations Vacant

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For an application pack call [01443] 408418 or e-mail recruitment@dewiscil.org.uk Quote Ref ADV 09 (CV's not accepted)

Closing date Friday 30th October 2009.

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No previous experience is necessary, training to join this new growth industry can usually be taken around current job at our nationwide training centres **approved by the Government-appointed Awarding Body for the Built Environment and is subsidised.** On qualifying start your own energy business, work for other Assessment Providers or be available for potential full or part-time work through our Energy Assessor Panel **with earnings of £50 to £1,500 per Assessment.**

ref: HGL41S

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Salary £15,500

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All applicants will be required to complete an enhanced CRB disclosure.

Closing date 27th October, 2009

Application packs from Mrs Jude Peters, Llandaff BSR, The Court, Coychurch, Bridgend CF35 5EH.

Tel: 01656 868868.
Charity No. 1037922.

Public Notices

MAENDY CHAPEL, MAENDY, NR COWBRIDGE

The Trustees of Maendy Chapel and Burial Ground are proposing to dispose of the Chapel and the Graveyard.

Anyone who has a view about the proposed sale of the land must contact the Charity Trustees by writing to Larby Williams Solicitors of 60 Eastgate, Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan CF71 7AB (ref: JAH) within 28 days of this notice.

Dated October 7, 2009.

Town and County Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 6 OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Proposed development at Welford Farm, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan.

I give notice that Shakur Ahmed is applying to the Vale of Glamorgan Council for Planning Permission to convert a vacant barn into a 2 storey house.

Any owner* of the land or tenant** who wishes to make representation about this application should write to the Council at Head of Planning and Transportation, The Vale of Glamorgan Council, Barry Docks, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, CF63 4RT.by the 29.10.09

"owner" means a person having a freehold interest or leasehold interest in the unexpired term of which is not less than 7 years, or, in the case of development consisting of the winning and working of minerals, a person entitled to an interest in mineral in the land (other than oil, gas, gold or silver)

** "tenant" means a tenant of a agricultural holding any part of which is comprised in the land.

Signed Wm Saunders Partnership LLP
+ on behalf of Shakur Ahmed

Date 8.10.2009 - Statement of Owners` rights

The grant of planning permission does not affect owners` rights to retain or dispose of the property, unless there is some provision to the contrary in a agreement or in a lease.

Statement of agricultural tenants` rights
The grant of planning permission for non-agricultural development may affect agricultural tenants` security of tenure.

Family Notices

Evan HUGHES

On September 30, peacefully at Llandough Hospital, Evan of St Athan, beloved husband of Dorothy, a dearly loved father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Tuesday October 13, service and cremation 2.45pm at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. No flowers by request, donations in lieu if desired to British Heart Foundation c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Rd., Rhoose

Ellen LEECH

Sadly passed away on Tuesday October 6, 2009, Ellen, loving mother of Tina and Pat.
Funeral Service on Tuesday October 13, 2009 in Coychurch Crematorium at 2.15pm. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to Red Cross (cheques only) to WA Brown & Son, College Street, Llantwit Major.

Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

LILY-ANN GORE

To our special little girl.
Happy **6th Birthday**
11th October

Have a wonderful day.
Lots of Love and Kisses always –
Mummy and Daddy.
x x x x

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jim McLean

Happy Birthday to a well-loved husband, dad and grandad.

Thank you for all you do for us, love Tricia.
XXXX

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porthcawl-today.co.uk
bridgend-today.co.uk

Property

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Unfurnished, with garden/parking, GCH, fitted cooker/hob.
£465pcm
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Highlight Park, Barry
2 Bed House
GCH, DG, parking, landscaped garden, good neighbours, quiet area.
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Call Andy on 07709 092766

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630 sq ft, A2 & A3 use.
Plus 3 phase.
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One Bedroom Flat
Near Jenner Park.
Gas central heating.
£100 per week.
Contact: 07966 223184

Public Notices

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972
REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIDGEND

The Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales are about to conduct a review of the electoral arrangements for the County Borough of Bridgend. Among the matters the Commission will consider are the size of the Bridgend County Borough Council and the number and boundaries of its electoral divisions based on the existing pattern of communities and community wards.

The Welsh Assembly Government has given Directions for the Commission's guidance in conducting the review. Copies of the Directions are available from the Commission's office at the address below.

Before they begin to formulate their draft proposals, the Commission invite any person or body having an interest in the review to send their initial comments in writing to: The Secretary, Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales, Caradog House, 1-6 St Andrews Place, CARDIFF CF10 3BE by 27 November 2009.

Please note that the comments received may be published. If the respondent does not wish to publicly disclose their name and address this must be stated expressly in the response.

EDWARD H LEWIS
Secretary

COMISIWN FFINIAU LLYWODRAETH LEOL I GYMRU
DEDDF LLYWODRAETH LEOL 1972
AROLWG O'R TREFNIADAU ETHOLIADOL AR GYFER BWRDEISTREF SIROL PEN-Y-BONT AR OGWR

Mae'r Comisiwn Ffiniau Llywodraeth Leol i Gymru ar fin cynnal arolwg o'r trefniadau etholiadol ar gyfer Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr. Ymhlith y materion y bydd y Comisiwn yn eu hystyried bydd maint Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr a nifer a ffiniau ei ranbarthau etholiadol yn seiliedig ar y patrwm presennol o gymunedau a wardiau cymunedol.

Mae Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru wedi rhoi Cyfarwyddiadau fel canllaw i'r Comisiwn wrth gynnal yr arolwg hwn. Mae copïau o'r Cyfarwyddiadau ar gael o swyddfa'r Comisiwn yn y cyfeiriad isod.

Cyn dechrau llunio eu cynigion drafft, mae'r Comisiwn yn estyn gwahoddiad i unrhyw berson neu gorff sydd â diddordeb yn yr arolwg i anfon eu sylwadau cychwynnol yn ysgrifenedig at: Yr Ysgrifennydd, Comisiwn Ffiniau Llywodraeth Leol i Gymru, Tŷ Caradog, 1-6 Plas St Andreas, CAERDYDD CF10 3BE erbyn 27 Tachwedd 2009.

Sylwch y gellir cyhoeddi'r sylwadau a gyflwynir. Os na fydd yr ymatebydd yn dymuno datgelu ei enw na'i gyfeiriad yn gyhoeddus, rhaid nodi hyn yn eglur yn yr ymateb.

EDWARD H LEWIS
Ysgrifennydd

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ADVERTISE HERE for up to 4 weeks for 50p a word plus VAT. To take advantage of this offer simply either send in your description along with a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to "The Glamorgan Gem" at The Gem, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or telephone us with your wording by 12 noon Tuesday. All major credit cards accepted. Tel 01446 774484. Advert must contain a residential land line telephone number. You may alter your advert as items are sold. **Sorry no refunds are given.**

CHAISE LONGUE covered in gold fabric; was £1,349, now £399. Four French Lloyd loom style rattan chairs in spice; were £329 each, now £90 each. 7'x3' solid pine farmhouse table with turned legs; was £599, now £249. All ex-Omnia stock. Ring Helen on 07967 756627. **(41)**

DURESTA Large 2/3 seater sofa and armchair. Immaculate, cost £2,500, sell for £350. Tel: 01446 736162. **(41)**

BROWN LEATHER SOFA with cream stitching 3 seater and chair £350 ono. Tel: 01446 751075. **(41)**

BATHMASTER SONARIS (new) £200. New Bathmate air cushion £200. New scooter shoprider £500. New Hotpoint washing machine £150. New Indesit washing machine £150. New wheelchair £80. New wheelchair, self propelled £200. Tel: 01656 890489. **(41)**

NEW WORKTOPS 10 slate grey axiom/wodga worktops for sale, various sizes. 7 new white double glazed uPVC windows. Tel: 02920 462462. **(41)**

54 ITEMS of Johnsons' 'Eternal Bow' pattern china, teaset & more. Phone for more information. Tel: 01443 231498. **(41)**

PIER WICKER CHAIR, settee and coffee table. New condition £100. Tel: 01446 744369. **(40)**

MULTI YORK Three piece suite (Suffolk model) with loose covers, oyster colour. Large 3 seater sofa and 2 armchairs, very good condition £300. Tel: 01446 775706. **(40)**

SHOWER CHAIR As new. Still in box. Cost £35, sell for £25. Tel: 01446 746045. **(40)**

JAY-BE Studio bunk (metal) with desk/fold-out sleepover bed beneath, vgc £125. Two 'mahogany' wooden blinds (1007x1260, 1007x1100) vgc, £50 each. Tel: 01446 772235/07931 727171. **(40)**

HUGE HANDMADE Antiqued pine bookcase £100. Tel: 01446 412419. **(40)**

BOSCH DISHWASHER £60. Crede electric cooker £90. Two Beko fridge freezers £50 & £70. Tel: 01446 771788. **(39)**

TWO FISH TANKS Complete or sell separately. For more details, contact 01446 401814. **(39)**

STEEL BATH with taps. Free, but must be collected. Tel: 01446 736397. **(39)**

ALUMINIUM LADDER 4.2 metre double extension £50. Tel: 01446 792147. **(39)**

SWIVEL ARMCHAIR Dark green Italian leather £30. Tel: 01446 792555.**(39)**

FOLDING BIKE £120. Golf clubs and bag £50. Breadmaker £20. Chaos 2 inline skates mens size 11 £50. All as new. Tel: 01446 793113 or 07725 013557. **(39)**

PROFORM 470HR Elliptical cross trainer, touch screen console. 8 programmes, as new £130 (RRP £219). Tel: 01446 794245. **(39)**

CHRISTIE ORGAN Commemorative plate 1987, £100. Tel: 01446 421674. **(39)**

SALON FURNITURE: 3 styling mirror units, 3 Wella hydraulic chairs, 1 Wella wall mounted setting dryer. Offers. Tel: 07885 067735. **(39)**

SARACEN DIRT JUMP BIKE 14x26, front disc brake. Hardly used £120 ono. Tel: 07885 067735. **(39)**

CRYSTAL Modern lamps, with light grey silk shades. Very heavy, £70 the pair. Cast iron dog crate for logs or coal £40 ono. Tel; 01446 754386. **(38)**

SELECTION of solid brass ceiling and wall lights with cut glass and lead crystal shades and droplets. Various prices. Contact 01446 761168 or 07833 336089. **(38)**

DAB/DIGITAL RADIO Grey colour, immaculate condition £90. Tel: 01656 773412 after 6pm. **(38)**

BLACK DAEWOO American fridge/freezer with water/ice dispenser. Approx 18 months old, immaculate condition £400 ono. Tel: 01656 881084. **(38)**

RAF St Athan Golf Club's own Ryder Cup goes to the civvies

ALL media coverage of the 2010 Ryder Cup at Celtic Manor paled into insignificance when RAF St Athan Golf Club held one of their most prestigious events of the year – The Elwyn Parry Ryder Cup.

Started in 1993, this is now an annual event with 16 golfers each representing the RAF and Civilian teams.

Because of the reduction in the RAF and the increase in army and navy personnel at St Athan over recent years, it has been agreed with the founder members of this competition, that from next year the RAF team will be known as 'Combined Services'.

On Friday, September 25, the RAF captain Steve Higgins, Civilian captain Ady Hawkins, players and caddies gathered in the clubhouse for the much awaited draw, all of the golfers eager to see who they would be playing, first in the morning foursomes and then in the afternoon singles.

Twelve players from each team qualified throughout the season and the remaining four are captains' wild cards. As in previous years, the final combinations appeared to show that the match would be tight.

Saturday, September 26, at exactly 8am, with the Civilians (affectionately known as the Civvies) defending the title, the first of the foursome matches teed off in front of the gathering crowd, shouting encouragement and light-hearted insults.

At the midway stage, with the eight foursome games completed and the scoreboard showing 4½-3½ to the RAF team, the 32 players couldn't wait to finish their lunch and resume the battle.

The RAF fought hard, but as the afternoon wore on the Civvies were closing in on their opponents. Now pride really was at stake but, unfortunately for the RAF, the Civvies sealed the victory finishing the day 14-10, exactly the same result as last year.

Elwyn Parry was on holiday, so Mike Clark (a staunch unbiased Civilian supporter!) stepped in as guest of honour for the evening dinner and trophy presentation, immediately followed by the traditional 'gauntlet across the face' challenge for next year.

Losing captain Steve savoured the moment.....rolling up his sleeve and taking one almighty swipe which left Ady speechless for a few seconds before duly accepting the challenge, (video is available!).

RAF St Athan Golf Club is proud of its history and is the only club in the area to hold its own Ryder Cup. The members warmly welcome new players, especially those who are Ryder Cup enthusiasts!

For more information please contact the club on 01446 751043.

CAROL MORGAN

RAF team.

Civilian team.

Players who scored zero points.

The Saints run out of time in comeback bid

TONYREFAIL B 4
THE SAINTS 3

THE long drive over the mountain and into Gilfach Goch saw the Saints visit Tonyrefail B, 8-0 conquerors of the Tudor in the cup a few weeks ago.

Both teams started steadily and played cagey football in the opening stages. Tonyrefail opened the scoring after 20 minutes when a corner was eventually turned in by the forward after numerous blocks for 1-0.

The Saints' heads dropped and it wasn't long before it was two as a clever through ball saw the striker break the off side trap to skip past Jackson and slot the ball home.

The Saints were in disarray and it took brilliant headed clearances from first Dobson and secondly Gavin Morgans, to stop Tonyrefail furthering their lead.

The Saints rallied in the final 15 minutes of the half when Leigh Lewis struck the bar from a free kick ,and then Brian Hunt hit the post straight from a corner.

A poor first half display saw the Saints go in 2-0 down at half-time.

The Saints attempted to start the second half better than the first, and Lewis danced past four defenders before shooting into the side netting. However, Tonyrefail then broke down the left hand side and a low ball into the box was well blocked by Morgans, but fell for their midfielder, who side footed the ball in for 3-0.

Lewis then saw an almost carbon copy of his first half free kick tipped over and Snelson shot wide from the resulting corner.

Tonyrefail completed their scoring when a mix-up between keeper and defence saw their forward fire home from six yards and The Saints looked down and out.

However, the Saints weren't to be beaten without a fight and a half-cleared corner was crossed back in by Lewis for James Snelson to volley in from four yards. A glimmer of hope for The Saints!

That glimmer of a comeback became a possibility as Lewis picked the ball up on the right and chipped a neat ball into the six-yard box for Snelson to nod in from a yard out and the Saints were rejuvenated.

Now it was Tonyrefail's turn to be all over the place and Lewis fired over from the edge of the area after a bad clearance.

Snelson then showed tremendous quick thinking to send a quick free kick through to Lewis to put him in on goal. Lewis then rounded the keeper to pass the ball in for 4-3. Snelson received the ball 25 yards out with his path to goal unblocked, but the ref blew up for offside despite one of the Tonyrefail players playing Snelson onside while down in the corner, but obviously unsighted to the ref.

An exciting finish from The Saints who, despite a poor first half, showed grit and determination to drag themselves back to almost a shock comeback – but unfortunately, almost isn't enough.

Man-of-the-match was Gavin Morgans. Despite the team shipping four goals, Morgans remained rock solid at the back and worked tirelessly for the team.

Many thanks to Lafarge Cement (Aberthaw Works), The Kinsale Stone Company (Wales) Ltd and Roy and Cindy at the Four Bells, St Athan for their support of the team.

The Saints: Matt Jackson, Brian Hunt, Marc Dobson, Tom Roberts, Gavin Morgans, James Snelson (capt), Wayne Marsh, Rob Collings, Ryan Randall, Joel Tofton, Leigh Lewis. Subs: Dean Clarke, Andrew Casey.

The Llantwit under-10s run rampant

LLANTWIT forwards were outstanding all morning giving some excellent service to the backs.

Both forwards and backs tackled out of their skins. The Barry boys were bigger but were always being driven backwards by some determined play by forwards and backs.

A truly outstanding performance by the whole squad. Final score: 63-7.

Try scorers: Morgan Gore (5); Oliver Rowbottom (2); Ellis Simon (1); Nick Harris (1).

Conversions: Morgan Gore (8); Ieuan Williams (1). Man-of-the-match was Oliver Rowbottom.

A mixed week for Cowbridge Town

COWBRIDGE Town seniors travelled to Barry Sports Centre still searching for their first victory of the season.

In truth, Town have been unfortunate so far this campaign, and their league position in no way reflects their performances. With this in mind, Cowbridge travelled confident of a victory against Cadoxton United.

Skipper Craig Burrows was unavailable and consequently manager Ed Jones was forced into changes, with a number of players playing out of position.

Nic Vaile deputised in centre midfield in Burrows' absence, Tim Howard was shifted to right-wing and Matt Little was moved from centre-back to left-back in order to accommodate player-manager Jones, who brought the boots out of retirement for the weekend.

Cowbridge started positively and passed the ball with sharpness. Jones and fellow centre-back Mark Rollings looked solid at the back, Jones providing a much-needed calmness while Rollings was particularly impressive in the air.

Before long, Cowbridge started to take a stranglehold and the first goal had an air of inevitability about it. Lloyd Lewis timed his run into the box to volley beyond the United keeper from 12 yards.

A second goal soon arrived as forward Rhys Lewis found himself in on goal with only the keeper to beat. Lewis showed good composure to slot home.

A third goal arrived before half-time, Tim Howard netting his first of the season after drifting off his wing and finishing well under pressure.

The second half began in much the same vein as the first. Town were dominant in midfield, with Vaile and Lewis proving far too strong against the Cadoxton engine room. This dominance lead to a host of chances, but a combination of anaemic finishing, luck, and some dubious offside decisions left Cowbridge frustrated.

Jack Gavin was brought on, nursing a rib injury, and soon had Cowbridge's. Excellent work down the left side from Luke England left Gavin with a simple chance which he finished well through the legs of the onrushing goalie.

Gavin soon had his second and Cowbridge's fifth, his second free-kick in as many games – whether he meant to shoot from this one, however, is perhaps debatable!

Cadoxton did manage to grab themselves a late consolation with virtually the last kick of the game and truth be told, it was a sensational strike.

The defence were disappointed to have lost the clean sheet, but there was very little that they could have done.

The final score of 5-1 was thoroughly deserved and with the squad in buoyant mood, the visit of promotion chasers Cadoxton Barry the following week looked a little less daunting.

Having lost only once in five games and scoring 19 in the process, the Barry outfit would clearly take some beating.

Player-manager Ed Jones, whose impressive league debut last week meant that his boots would have to prolong their retirement for a little longer was granted another start, and his laces were scarcely tied before he was made to work from an early Barry attack.

The away team started brightly, creating a number of chances that weren't too far away from the town goal. However, it was a mistake that led to the opening Cadoxton goal.

An extremely sloppy back pass from midfield was pounced on by the alert Barry striker, who rode the luck of a few tackles before lofting it over Ian Bavey in the Cowbridge goal.

For the remainder of the half, Cowbridge struggled to get a foothold in the game. The free-flowing football that had been so prominent in previous games seemed to be eluding them. A triple substitution on 65 minutes seemed to be an astute move, especially the introduction of Lloyd Lewis who didn't wait long before latching on to an elegant 'lay-back' by Rhys Lewis and slotting the ball into the bottom corner to make it 1-1.

The remaining 20 minutes blessed the spectators with moments of sublime skill, calamitous defending and martial art action after right-back Dan Hughes took offence to Cadoxton's method of time wasting and leapt in, earning himself a booking.

A long ball over the top of the Cowbridge defence was greeted by uncertainty and, as both keeper and defender contemplated a clearance, the Barry attacker snuck in for an easy finish and a 2-1 lead.

Cowbridge were rattled and this showed as Barry soon made it 3-1 with a header at the far post and Cowbridge were heading to their third defeat in as many weeks.

Cowbridge did make it 3-2 in the dying moments when Cowbridge winger Tim Howard, showed a sublime moment of skill on the edge of the Cadoxton box before befuddling two defenders and coolly slotting home.

Cowbridge squash teams in clean sweep

ALL three Cowbridge teams made a fine start, all winning their opening encounters.

These results are particularly remarkable following promotion seasons for the A and B teams to South Wales Leagues and South Glamorgan Division One respectively.

The Cowbridge A side made their latest mark in south Wales regional squash with a 5-0 win.

Skipper and No 1 Nick led from the front, only dropping three points in his win. Comfortable victories were achieved by Jon Bisson, Garfield Leask and James Page at No 2, 3 and 5 respectively.

Only Niall Sloan had a slightly rusty start, following his usual summer lay-off by dropping the first game but recovered his composure to take the spoils.

Cowbridge B started their campaign at Llanishen B with Chris Ranger, Steve Morris and Julian Jenkins all running out 3-0 winners to set up a fine away victory – even though both Paul Reynish at No 2 and Simon Payne at No 1 both had to fight back from being 1-2 down to win their respective games.

The C team secured a 4-1 victory at home to David Lloyds C in their South Glamorgan Division Two fixture. New Cs' captain and No 1 Colin Giles sealed their win with a 3-0 result – particularly pleasing as he was scratching around for players in the lead up to this match, with Nick Groves being brought back from injury and retirement and Mike Burnett making a rare appearance – overall match score 18-5.

Week 2 fixtures see the As entertain Cardiff Veterans while the B team travel to St Mellons D and the Cs travel to David Lloyds B.

RUSS WATTS

Vale Wanderers are making 'massive' progress

VALE Wanderers took on Rumney RFC at Dinas Powys in a very keenly contested game which highlighted the massive step forward made by the newly-formed Wanderers in only their second game.

The Wanderers is an amalgamation of Dinas Powys, Llantwit Major and Barry under-13s.

All three clubs have struggled for numbers at this age group, and allowing the boys to play enough rugby has being a major problem for the coaches.

Following on from their 35-12 defeat against Llandaff North last week in the red of Llantwit Major, the boys donned the blue of Dinas Powys for only their second game against an experienced and well-organised Rumney team.

The visitors started strongly and crossed for their first try following some good handling after five minutes. The try was converted to give Rumney an early seven-point cushion.

As Rumney pressed for a second try, the first obvious improvement from the previous game became apparent. The tackling of the combined team was much sharper, and competition at the ruck was also stepped up.

Despite this, Rumney opened up a 19-point lead just before half-time. However, the commitment shown by the Wanderers was rewarded with a fine forwards' try by the entire pack.

Hugo Billington picked up a loose ball 15 metres out and drove strongly through a couple of tacklers. He was held and a maul formed around him.

Still in control of the ball, he summoned his fellow forwards into the drive and a strong surge from the home pack saw him driven over for a fine pack effort.

Rumney replied from the re-start with another converted try and led 31-5 at half-time.

The team talk from the coaching team focused on cutting out the errors and matching Rumney in the contact area. As the second half started, it was clear that the boys had taken this message on board. A series of crunching tackles by the home team saw Rumney offside at the ruck, just outside the Dinas 22.

A quick tap penalty saw powerful No 8 Rhys Forse score under the posts after a 70-metre run. He left the Rumney defence in tatters as he powered his way upfield. The try was converted by Lewys Morgan.

The rest of the half saw Rumney camped in the Vale 22, but they could not cross the home try line due to heroic defence by the whole Vale team.

Particular mention for this defensive effort must go to Billie Jones, Brad Boyland, Connor Lewis and the immovable Rhys Forse.

Final score was **Vale Wanderers 12 Rumney 31.** A great effort was saluted by the coaching team and we now look forward going to the district tournament at Rumney RFC next Sunday.

TIM JONES

Vale Schools under-11s are pipped at Newport

ON a blustery Saturday morning, Vale Schools under-11s headed east to play Newport Schools at Caerleon RFC.

Newport kicked off and the Vale responded with a strong run from Charles Pegrum on the wing, to gain good field position in the Newport half.

A scrum under the posts and a number of attacks from the Vale backs were thwarted by a well-drilled Newport back line, and a spilled ball by the Vale allowed Newport to spin the ball wide to the wing, who ran in under the posts to score the first try.

Against the run of play, Newport held the score to 7-0 at half-time.

The second half started with the Vale forwards Max Lucas, Joe Knott, Owain Jenkins and Mathew Keating securing good ball for Spencer Robinson at scrum half to set Cai Evans off on some of his trade mark runs.

With Newport under pressure, a clearance kick was gathered by James Holder at full-back, who ran up the blind side with support from the forwards.

Quick ball from the resulting ruck allowed Spencer Robinson to snipe up the blind side and pass inside to Owain Leyshon, who drove over for a well-deserved try.

In the second half, Newport were able to spin the ball wide from a ruck and score in the corner.

Final score: Newport 12 Vale Schools 5

This was a disappointing result but some good individual performances that the Vale can take into the next game against Bridgend Schools.

Well done to the B side, who fought tooth and nail against a big Newport side, but went down 10-0.

IH

Vale Schools started the new season with victory

ON a lovely sunny day, the Vale under-11s kicked off the first match of the new season against Merthyr.

Merthyr pressed and some good tackling by James Holder and the backs enabled the Vale to win back the ball.

Some excellent passing along the line gave Charlie Perigrim the opportunity to score under the posts. The try was converted by Harry Morgan.

From the restart, the Vale forwards won the ball and from a good mis-pass by scrum-half Spencer Robinson, Kai Evans, skillfully beat three of the opposition to score. The try was converted again by Harry Morgan.

All through the game, the forwards secured the ball for the backs to work with. From a ruck on the 22, Spencer Robinson went on the blind side and scored in the corner.

The Vale made some changes at half-time. From the start, the Vale were pushing Merthyr and a scrum was called on the 22.

Max Lucas won the ball and passed it along the line to Iestyn Willey, who scored in the corner.

Charlie Perigrim then scored and the try was converted by Kai Evans. This was the end of the second period.

Merthyr scored a consolation try, but the final score as 31-5 to the Vale.

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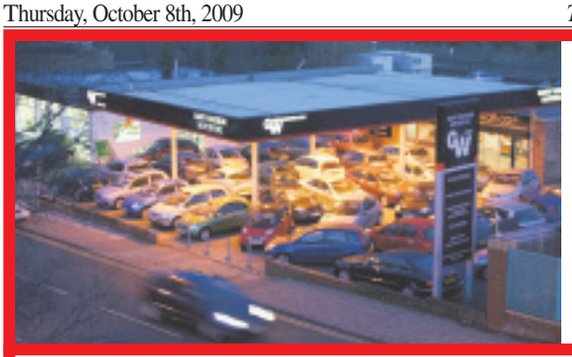

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01 **Y BMW 3 Series 1.9i 316 4-Dr Saloon.** In bright red with dark interior, electric windows, colour coded bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 49,125 miles **£4,295**

SMALL

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05 **54 VW Golf 1.6 Fsi (115ps) SE 5-dr hatchback.** In New River Blue with anthracite interior, climate control, cruise control, cd, only 42,490 miles....**£7,495**

05 **55 Citroen Xsara Picasso 1.6i 16v 110hp Exclusive 5-dr MPV.** Oriental blue, blue interior, cruise, auto a/c, front fogs, steering wheel mounted audio controls, only 32,355 miles....**£6,495**

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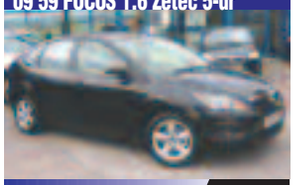

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06 56 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi Dynamique 3-dr. CD, full electrics. **£6995**
06 06 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 HDI S 5-dr. a/c, cd, full electrics. **£6795**
06 06 RENAULT Modus 1.4 Dynamique 5-dr. A/c, CD, alloys, full electrics . **£5995**
06 06 TOYOTA Yaris T3 3-dr. A/c, cd, met. grey, under 15k miles. **£6495**
05 55 NISSAN Micra 1.2 SE 5-dr. A/c, CD, full electrics **£5495**
05 55 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6 Breeze. 7 seats, alloys, a/c, cd. **£6495**
05 05 VW Golf 2.0 GT TDi 5-dr. 6 disc cd,dual climate, auto lights and wipers, 6 speed a/c, cd **£7495**
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05 **05 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Hatchback.** 5 doors, remote central locking, pas, electric windows, cd, full service history, alloys, ... **£3,995**

03 **53 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.4 SE FSi.** 5 doors, metallic silver, air conditioning, central locking, pas, alarmed **£3,995**

03 **53 FORD Fiesta Hatchback 1.4 Flame.** 5 doors, metallic green, full service history, immobiliser, cd, pas, central locking, electric windows, alarm **£3,995**

01 **Y BMW 320d.** 4 doors, manual 5 speed, saloon, diesel, 87,000 miles, metallic silver, MOT - 08.2010, 2 owners. space saver spare wheel, ABS, front armrest **£3,995**

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04 **54 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression.** 3 doors, metallic silver, sunroof, cd, full service history, central locking, full electrics **£3,795**

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01 **VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 GTi.** 3 doors, manual, hatchback, petrol, 77,000 miles, metallic silver, MOT - 08.2010, rear wiper, air conditioning **£3,495**

03 **53 CITROEN C2 1.6i 16v VTR SensoDrive.** 3 doors, automatic, hatchback, petrol, 58,000 miles, silver, ABS, alloy wheels, cruise control, Immobiliser, passenger airbag, warranteed **£3,495**

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01 **VAUXHALL Astra 2.2 16v Convertible.** 2 doors, manual, petrol, 98,000 miles, metallic silver, full size spare wheel, ABS, air conditioning, alloy wheels **£3,295**

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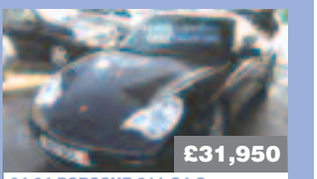
04 **04 MG ZR 1.4 105+.** 3 doors, manual 5 speed, hatchback, petrol, 60,000 miles, metallic silver, 1 owner. Full main dealer service history, electric windows **£2,795**

01 **51 VOLVO S60 2.0 TS.** 4 doors, manual 5 speed, saloon, petrol, 100,000 miles, metallic black, MOT - 08.2010, space saver spare wheel, ABS, air conditioning, alloy wheels **£2,595**

00 **X AUDI A4 1.8T Sport.** 5 doors, metallic blue, full service history, alloys, remote central locking, electric windows/mirrors, and alarmed **£2,495**

00 **W NISSAN Almera 1.3 S.** 3 doors, metallic grey, full service history, air conditioning, remote central locking, electric sunroof, cd multi changer **£1,295**



04 04 PORSCHE 911 C4 Coupe
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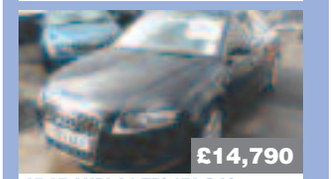

07 07 AUDI A4 TDi 170 S Line
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05 05 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2 Twist
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03 **52 FORD Ka 1.3i Collection.** 3 doors, manual, hatchback, petrol, 26,000 miles, red, MOT - 03.2010, adjustable steering column/wheel, anti theft system **£2,495**

02 **02 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique.** 3 doors, manual, hatchback, petrol, 62,000 miles, metallic paintwork, adjustable steering column/wheel **£2,395**

00 **W FORD Focus 2.0 Ghia.** 5 doors, manual, estate, petrol, 71,000 miles, metallic silver, MOT - 06,2010, 2 owners, anti theft system, adjustable steering column/wheel **£2,195**

99 **T MERCEDES-Benz A160 Avantgarde.** 5 doors, manual, hatchback, petrol, 75,000 miles, grey, 2 owners, solid paint, lumbar support, leather seats, adjustable steering **£1,895**

03 **52 MG ZS 1.8 120 +.** 5 doors, manual, hatchback, petrol, 55,000 miles, grey, 2 owners, ABS, air conditioning, alarm, alloy wheels, drivers airbag, electric door **£1,895**

01 **51 PEUGEOT 306 1.8 Meridian.** 5 doors, manual, estate, petrol, 85,000 miles, metallic silver, MOT - 03.2010, rear wiper, air conditioning, heated door mirrors **£1,695**

01 **FORD Ka 1.3i.** 3 doors, manual 5 speed, hatchback, petrol, 85,000 miles, metallic blue, adjustable seats, full size spare wheel **£1,495**

97 **R RENAULT Clio 1.2 RN Provence.** 3 doors, manual, hatchback, petrol, 90,000 miles, black, MOT - 06.2010, 3 owners, ABS, electric windows, multi function steering wheel **£995**

93 **L Lexus GS 3.0.** 4 doors, automatic, saloon, petrol, 170,000 miles, metallic silver, ABS, rear electric windows, adjustable seats **£995**

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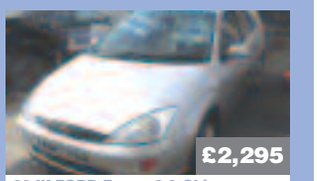
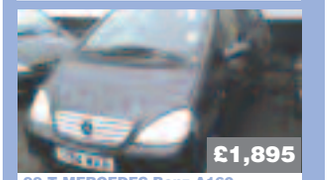
93 **K HONDA Civic ESI.** 5 doors, metallic red, central locking, electric windows, electric sunroof **£795**

97 **R VAUXHALL Vectra 1.8 Arctic.** 5 doors, metallic blue, remote central locking, air con, alloys, ... **£675**



00 W FORD Focus 2.0 Ghia
5 doors, Manual, Estate, Petrol, 71,000 miles, Met silver, 2 owners, MOT-06.2010



99 T MERCEDES-Benz A160
5 doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 75,000 miles, Grey, Leather seats

01 FORD Ka 1.3i
3 doors, Manual 5 speed, Hatchback, Petrol, 85,000 miles, Metallic blue

99 T FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec
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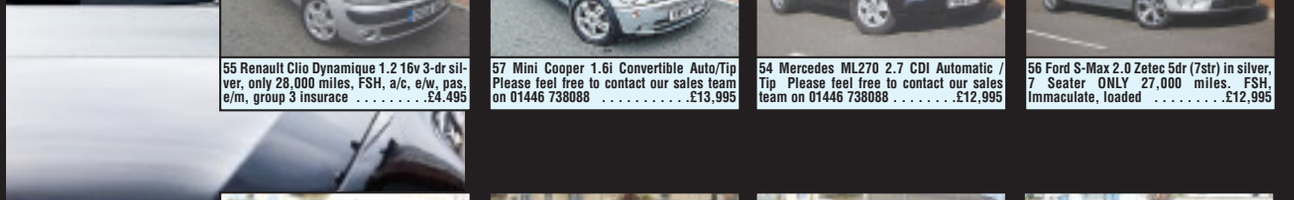
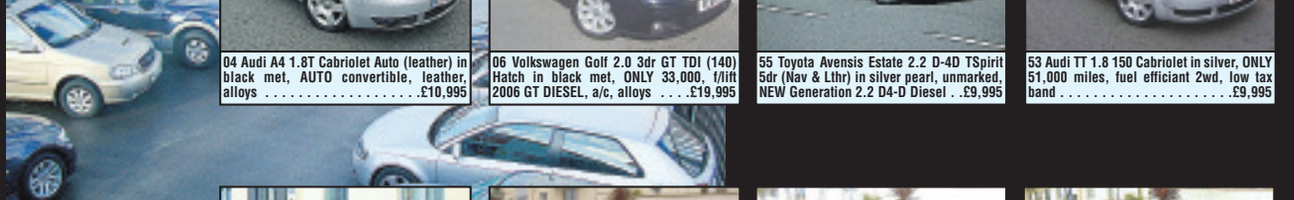
07 Audi Q7 S-Line Quattro TDI (130) in black, S Line Auto DSG. 35,000 miles. FASH. Loaded £27,995



07 Mercedes C320 CDI 3.0 Avantgarde SE Diesel in black met, 2007, DIESEL, 28K, FMBSH, leather, Sat Nav £18,995

06 BMW 325I M Sport I Drive (Navigation) in black, ONLY 35,000 miles FSH. M Sport with I Drive/ sat nav. £16,995

55 Renault Clio Dynamique 1.2 16v 3-dr silver, only 28,000 miles, FSH, a/c, e/w, pas, e/m, group 3 insurace £4.495



57 Mini Cooper 1.6i Convertible Auto/Tip Please feel free to contact our sales team on 01446 738088 . . . . . .£13,995

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56 Ford S-Max 2.0 Zetec 5dr (7str) in silver, 7 Seater ONLY 27,000 miles. FSH, Immaculate, loaded £12,995

56 Lexus IS 250 2.5 Sport 6sp in black metallic, genuine Sport with alcantara, alloys, loaded £11,995

07 Volkswagen Jetta 1.9 TDI SE PD 4dr (New) in silver, NEW SHAPE DIESEL, ONLY 21,000 miles. Loaded, a/c, alloys £10,995

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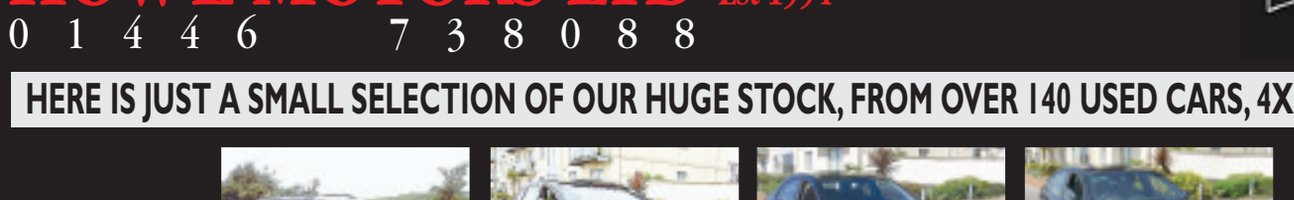
55 Mini Cooper S 1.6 Supercharged (SAT NAV) in blue metallic, ONLY 33,000 miles. SAT NAV, Harmon Kardon, a/c . . .£10,995



04 Audi A4 1.8T Cabriolet Auto (leather) in black met, AUTO convertible, leather, alloys £10,995

06 Volkswagen Golf 2.0 3dr GT TDI (140) Hatch in black met, ONLY 33,000, f/lift 2006 GT DIESEL, a/c, alloys £19,995

55 Toyota Avensis Estate 2.2 D-4D TSpirit 5dr (Nav & Lthr) in silver pearl, unmarked, NEW Generation 2.2 D4-D Diesel . .£9,995

53 Audi TT 1.8 150 Cabriolet in silver, ONLY 51,000 miles, fuel efficiant 2wd, low tax band £9,995

03 Audi A4 1.8 T Convertible SE in silver, black leather/ alcantara. 71,000 miles, STUNNING £9,995

55 Volkswagen Passat 2.0 SE TDI 140 Estate 5dr Diesel in grey met, NEW SHAPE DIESEL, ESTATE 5dr. Loaded £8,995

06 Vauxhall Tigra 1.4 Sport 2dr Twinport Convertible in black, 30,000 miles FVSH. Loaded convertible, a/c alloys . . .£8,995

09 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Style (New) in red, NEW SHAPE covered ONLY 5,000 miles. Stunning with CD, Ipod Dock £8,995

54 Mini Cooper 1.6 S In BRG metallic, leathert, Supercharged Cooper S, 167 BHP model with full service history . . .£7,995

05 Volkswagen Golf 1.4 S 5dr in black met, ONLY 17,000 miles. Low mileage .£7,995

06 Renault Megane Grand Scenic 1.5 DCI Dynamique (7 seater) in silver met, ONLY 30,000 miles, full service history .£7,995

05 Renault Clio 2.0 Renaultsport 182 in silver, 48,000 miles, FSH. Loaded, 182 bhp. £7,495

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08 Renault Clio 1.2 5dr Expression Eco 2 (a/c) in black met, 22,000 miles FSH. New Model A/C, e/w, CD £7,495

56 Peugeot 1007 1.6 Sport Urban Easytronic (Auto) grey, 6K, sliding doors, easy access, climate with air con .£6,995

53 Volkswagen Golf 1.9 GT TDI 150 in black 5dr 150 BHP 6speed DIESEL. Alloys, Recaros, wood, a/c £6,995

55 Ford Street Ka 1.6 Winter Pack in silver covered ONLY 46,000 miles. Top of the range, lthr, a/c £6,995

07 BMW 320i SE Cabriolet black met, NEW SHAPE convertible, ... 16,000 miles, FBMWSH, e/w, a/c, climate £21,995

56 VOLKSWAGEN Touraeg 3.0 V6 TDI SE (Nav-Lthr) in obsidian black met, STUNNING 51k FVWSH. Loaded leather, sat nav £19,995

57 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 GT TDI 170 Sport 5dr in tornado red, GTI Sport spec DIESEL. 170 BHP ONLY 29k, FVWSH £15,995

06 MAZDA RX-8 PZ 1.3 231 Prodrive Ltd Edition £11,995

03 RENAULT Clio 1.6 Initiale 16v 5dr Auto in blue. Automatic, ONLY 37K, leather/ alcantara, air con, climate, loaded £4,995

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X BMW 530I SE Auto in silver with FULL black leather. Face lift, AUTO 88K FSH. Unmarked £4,995

05 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Life 5dr. Low insurance 1.2 model. Low mileage with power steering £4,995

05 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Expression in red, 5dr new shape. ONLY 41,000 miles. FSH, a/c £4,995

X JAGUAR S Type 3,0 V6 SE Automatic in green, leather, a/c, electric seats, windows, alloys £4,995

54 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Design 5dr (a/c) in silver met, ONLY 14,000 miles. AS NEW, with air con £4,895

55 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.2 16v 3dr silver, ONLY 28,000 miles FSH, a/c, electric windows, PAS, e/m. GROUP 3 insurance ...£4,495

06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus Sport 3dr In silver, ONLY 53,000 miles FSH, air con, electric windows, remote locking, PAS, e/m. ONLY GROUP 3 insurance, low tax band. Part exchange welcome, and many finance packages available £4,495

04 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2E 5dr in silver met, ONLY 54,000 miles FSH. Unmarked, LOW INSURANCE, cheap road tax. Power steering, windows £4,495

05 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2-16v SXI in blue met, STUNNING 28,000 miles, CD, air con, alloy wheels £4,495

54 FORD Sport Ka 1.6 2dr in blue met, ONLY 23,000 miles, 1.6 Sport Model, alloys, pas £4,150

52 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2 S 3dr (55) inca yellow, ONLY 52,000 miles, alloys, a/c, power steering, CD, e/w £3,995

53 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Expression 16v 5dr in silver met, NEW SHAPE 5dr covered ONLY 38,000 miles. FSH, Card system, excellent condition £3,995

04 CITROEN C3 1.1 5dr Desire Silver, ONLY 32,000 miles FSH £3,995

53 TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 T2 VVT-I 3dr in blue met, ONLY 30,000 miles, FSH, excellent condition, e/w, low insurance £3,995

03 FORD Transit Connect 1.8TD SWB in silver, ONLY 66,000 miles, DIESEL, pas, CD player £3,995

04 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Life 5dr in green metallic, ONLY 45,000 miles LOW INSURANCE GRP2 .....£3,995

52 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2 E 3dr in silver met, late shape low insurance model. ONLY 50K £3,995

Y VOLLKSWAGEN Golf 1.8 GTI 150 Turbo LPG in blue metallic Turbo with LPG with data logger. Lovely condition. 18" Alloys £3,995

02 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2 E (55) 3dr in silver met, STUNNING, ONLY 56,000 miles. Unmarked £3,995

52 FORD Mondeo 2.0 Zetec 5dr in silver met, 69,000 miles FULL FORD SERVICE HISTORY. Alloys, a/c £3,495

03 FORD KA 1.3 Collection 3dr in silver met, low mileage with e/windows, pas, ONLY Grp 3 ins £3,495

02 FORD Puma 1.7 Coupe 3dr in black met, STUNNING 70,000 mile. A?C, , alloys £3,495

03 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 LX Automatic 3dr in red, AUTOMATIC with power steering 5dr hatch, air con, e/w, r/c/l, low tax band ...£2,995

03 FORD Ka 1.3i Collection Silver, 38,000 miles FSH, power steering, Grp 3 insurance, low tax, immaculate condition £2,995

03 VAUXHALL Agila 1.0 12v 5dr in blue met, ONLY 39,000 miles. FSH, 5dr, 1.0 low insurance £2,995

03 ROVER Streetwise 1.4 S 3dr in red met, ONLY 62,000 miles. STUNNING con £2,995

03 FORD KA 1.3 Collection in green met, low mileage, low insurance model. Excellent condition £2,995

Y TOYOTA Corolla 1.4V GLS in blue, ONLY 58,000 miles. 5dr very eco 1.4, a/c, e/w £2,995

52 MG ZR 1.4 105+ 5dr in red, with white 17" multi spoke alloys, Stunning example £2,995

54 DAEWOO Kalos 1.2 Extra Cool in silver, new shape 5dr, very economical 1.2 with air con 38k £2,995

03 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr (a/c) in silver, climate pack, a/c, alloy, SERVICE HISTORY. Immaculate £2,995

Y PEUGEOT 206 2.0 GTI SP 3dr in sirius silver metallic.Genuine SP with FSH. Full black leather, climate controlled air conditioning, factory facelift alloys, RDS, ABS and more. Lovely looking and drives A1 Must be seen at £2,995

51 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Authentique 3dr in lagos blue metallic, ONE OWNER 1.2 3dr ONLY 33,000 miles £2,995

04 DAEWOO Matiz 1.0 SE Plus 5dr in silver, 42k LOW INSURANCE, cheaper tax £2,800

R MG MGF 1.8 Sports 2dr in silver, 79K, with power steering, alloy wheels, remote locking £2,495

Y FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec 5dr in red metallic, ONLY 66,000 miles. Beautiful condition, pas £2,495

Y SEAT Ibiza 1.4 16v Chill 5dr in silver met, ONLY 46,000 miles. Low insurance 1.4 5dr, A/C £2,000

58 KYMCO KR125 Sport in red/ black, ONLY 1,900 miles. 125cc Sports bike with digital display. Ideal learner bike £1,995

R BMW 535i SE Auto (lthr) E39 in green met, FULL BISCUIT LEATHER. Auto with a/c, climate, phone, loaded £1,995

N DAIHATSU Fourtrak 2.8 TDL SE Independent Finished in azurite blue metallic with charcoal cloth seats. Late generation 2.8 face lift model with electric windows, remote alarm, power steering, artificial horizon, diff lock. FULL SERVICE HISTORY in fantastic original condition £1,995

X FORD KA Now 1.3 3dr Red, 56,000 miles FSH, power steering, Grp 3 insurance, low tax, immaculate condition £1,795

R FORD Escort 1.8 GTI 3dr 68,000 mile car with SERVICE HISTORY. In Calypso blue metallic, genuine 3dr GTI completley original £1,495

L VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.9 Diesel 5dr in red, Low mileage DIESEL 5dr. PAS, e/w. Part ex to clear £995

C NISSAN Cherry 1.3 SGL 3dr Completely original car covered ONLY 31,000 miles, FULL SERVICE HISTORY, 12 months MOT £995

W RENAULT Megane 2.0 Sport Alize 3dr in grey met, part exchange to clear on a trade basis. November MOT £625

56 Vauxhall Astra 1.4 5dr Club Twinport in silver, NEW SHAPE 29K, Low emissions 151 Co2. 5dr A/C £6,995

06 Volkswagen Polo 1.2E 55 3-dr in silver, only 9,000 miles, 3-dr new shape, low insurance 1.2 .....£5,995

06 Ford Fiesta 1.4 Freedom A/C in silver with ONLY 31,000 miles FSH. Immaculate Ltd Ed, air con, alloys £5,995

02 Ford Ka 1.3i Collection, silver, 38,000 miles, FSH, power steering, group 3 insurance, low tax, immaculate condition £2,995

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CONVERTIBLES

06 **RENAULT Megane CC 1.6 Dynamique.** Finished in met black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, electric glass roof, 29k £9295
06 **PEUGEOT 206 CC 1.6 Allure.** Finished in moonstone blue met with **full black/red leather trim**, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 56k £8195
55 **AUDI A4 2.5 TDi (Diesel) S-Line Cabriolet.** Manual, finished in met silver, with **half black leather sports trim**, alloys, a/c, cd, sat nav, 6 spd, fsh, 49k £14495
54 **RENAULT Megane CC 1.9 DCi (Diesel).** Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 72k £6995
52 **MG TF 1.6 Convertible.** Finished in power grey with black hood, alloys, radio/cd, fsh, 65k £4195
02 **PEUGEOT 206 CC 2.0 SE Convertible.** Finished in met silver, with **full black leather,** alloy wheels, climate control, radio/cd, 70k £4995

SPORTS/EXECUTIVE

56 **AUDI Q7 S-Line 3.0TDi (Diesel) Quattro.** Finished in met black with **black leather/suede interior**, 20" alloys, climate control, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 28k £25995
06 **VOLVO XC90 SE 2.4 D5 (Diesel) 5-dr Geartronic (185).** Finished in met black with **full black leather,** alloys, a/c, radio/cd, **7 seats**, 47k £18495
06 **BMW 320D SE (Diesel) Touring 5-dr.** Finished in black saphire met, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 1 owner, fsh, 69k £10995
06 **BMW 118D SE (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, reverse parking sensors, 1 owner, fsh, 76k £9995
55 **LAND ROVER Discovery S 2.7 TD V6 (Diesel) 5-dr 7 seats.** Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, reverse parking sensors, 50k £16995
55 **MERCEDES E220 Avantgarde CDi (Diesel) Auto.** Finished in silver with **full black leather,** alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 1 owner, 89k £11295
05 **MERCEDES ML 270 CDi Auto 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, **full black leather,** alloys, a/c, radio/cd, fsh, 61k £13495
05 **AUDI TT Coupe (180).** Finished in met silver with **full black leather**, upgraded alloys, climate control, 38k £10995
05 **VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 GT TDi (Diesel) (140) 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio, cd, multichanger, fsh, 39k £9795
05/54 **MERCEDES CLK 270 CDi (Diesel) Auto.** Finished in met black with **full black leather**, alloys, a/c,radio/cd, 59k £12995
54 **MAZDA RX8 (192) 4-dr Coupe.** Finished in Met Grey with **full black leather**, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 1 owner, fsh, 81k £7495
04/53 **MINI Cooper 1.6.** Finished in met blue, white roof, white alloys, **half leather trim**, John Coopers works body kit, full panoramic roof, chilli pack, radio/cd, 51k £7995
04 **BMW X3 2.5 SE 5-dr.** Finished in ice blue met, **full black leather**, 20" chrome alloys, M-series body kit, a/c, radio/cd, pdc, 37k £12995
04 **FORD Sport Ka 1.6.** Finished in met. Grey with sports cloth trim, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 30k £3695
53 **BMW X5 4.4i V8 Sport Auto.** Finished in met blue with **full black leather**, alloys, climate control, comms pack, nav colour-tv, radio/cd multichanger, full main dealer history, 51k £13795
53 **VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.9 GT TDi (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, cd, 67k £6295
03/52 **MERCEDES S 500 Auto Limousine.** Finished in met silver with **full grey leather** AMG alloys, sat nav-tv, sunroof, climate control front + rear, to many extras to list, ring for full description, 90k £10795
52 **MERCEDES ML 270 CDi Auto.** Finished in ink black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, cruise control, fsh, 72k £10495
52 **BMW X5 3.0 Sport Auto.** Finished in met red, **full beige leather**, alloys a/c, radio/cd £9295
52 **PEUGEOT 206 GTI 2.0 3-dr.** Finished in china blue met, **leather/suede interior**, pas, alloys, climate, cd £3995
02 **AUDI TT 180.** Finished in met silver with **full black leather**, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 80k £8295
02 **MERCEDES C320 Elagance Auto 4-dr.** Finished in met silver with **full black leather**, alloys, a/c, cd multichanger,95k £6295
Y **PEUGEOT 206 GTI 2.0 3-dr.** Finished in met silver, **black leather trim**, alloys, climate, cd, 36k £3495

4x4 / MPV / ESTATE

07/56 **VW PASSAT Estate 2.0 Sport TDi 170 (Diesel) DSG Auto 5-dr.** Finished in met black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, fsh, 82k .£10295
56 **AUDI Q7 S-Line 3.0TDi (Diesel) Quattro.** Finished in met black with **black leather/suede interior**, 20" alloys, climate control, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 28k £25995
06 **VOLVO XC90 SE 2.4 D5 (Diesel) 5-dr Geartronic (185).** Finished in met black with **full black leather,** alloys, a/c, radio/cd, **7 seats**, 47k £18495
06 **BMW 320D SE (Diesel) Touring 5-dr.** Finished in black saphire met, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 1 owner, fsh, 69k £10995
06 **JAGUAR X-Type 2.0 D (Diesel) SE Estate** Finished in met silver, **full black leather**, alloys, a/c, sat-nav, radio/cd ... £8795
06 **VAUXHALL Zafira Active 1.9 CDTi (120) (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, **7 seats**, 39k £8695
06 **VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6 Life.** Finished in met silver, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, radio/cd, 1 owner, fsh, **7 seats**, 42k £7195
06 **VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6 Club.** Finished in met black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, **7 seats**, 1 owner, fsh, 59k £6995
55 **CITROEN VTR Estate 1.6 HDi (Diesel).** Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, cd, 63k £6495
55 **LAND ROVER Discovery S 2.7 TD V6 (Diesel) 5-dr 7 seats.** Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, reverse parking sensors, 50k £16995
55 **VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4 Life 5-dr.** Finished in met black, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, a/c £5195
05 **MERCEDES ML 270 CDi Auto 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, **full black leather,** alloys, a/c, radio/cd, fsh, 61k £13495
05 **VOLVO V50 2.5 (Diesel) S Estate.** Finished in met. red with **beige leather,** alloys, a/c, cd, 66k £8995
54 **CITROEN Picasso 1.6 Desire 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, climate control, radio/cd, 51k £5195
04 **BMW X3 2.5 SE 5-dr.** Finished in ice blue met, **full black leather**, 20" chrome alloys, M-series body kit, a/c, radio/cd, pdc, 37k £12995
04 **MERCEDES ML270 (Diesel) CDi Auto 5-dr.** Finished in met blue with **full grey leather**, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 86k .. £10995
04 **VW SHARRAN 1.9TDi (Diesel) SE Auto.** Finished in met silver, alloys, climate, radio/cd, privacy glass, **7 seats,** 75k .. £6995
04 **CITROEN C8 2.0 16v LX 5-dr.** Finished in met grey, pas, c/locking, e/windows, air con, radio/CD, electric rear doors, 7 seats, FSH, 65k £5795
04 **VOLVO V40 2.0 Sport 5-dr Estate.** Finished in met green with **full black leather**, alloys, a/c, radio/CD, 77k £5495
04 **RENAULT Laguna 2.2 DCi (Diesel) Privilege Sport Tourer.** Finished with met silver with half leather trim, alloys, e/sunroof, dual zone climate control, cd multi-changer, 73k £4695
04 **RENAULT Megane Expression 1.4 Sport Tourer 5-dr Estate.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 67k £4395
53 **BMW X5 4.4i V8 Sport.** Finished in met blue with **full black leather**, alloys, climate control, comms pack, nav colour-tv, radio/cd multichanger, full main dealer history, 51k £13795
53 **RENAULT Scenic Expression 1.5 DCi (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 51k £4295
52 **MERCEDES ML 270 CDi Auto.** Finished in ink black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, cruise control, fsh, 72k £10495
52 **BMW X5 3.0 Sport Auto.** Finished in met red, **full beige leather**, alloys a/c, radio/cd £9295
02 **LAND ROVER Range Rover HSE 4.4 Auto 5-dr.** Finished in oslo blue with **full navy blenheim leather trim**, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, fsh, 87k £11995
02 **HONDA HR-V 4x4 1.6 Auto 3-dr.** Finished in met green, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 56k £4495

FAMILY CARS

57 **FIAT Bravo Active 1.9 Multijet (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in met blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, radio/cd £8795
57 **FIAT Punto Grande Eleganza 1.4 Auto 5-dr.** Finished in met red, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 29k £7195
07 **FIAT Punto Grande 1.2 Active 5-dr.** In new orleans blue met, pas, c/locking, e/windows, radio/cd, 10k £6495
06 **BMW 118D (Diesel) SE 5-dr.** Finished in black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, reverse parking sensors, 1 owner, fsh, 76k £9995
06 **FIAT Punto Grande 1.2 Active 5-dr.** Finished in met blue, alloys, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, 22k £5695
06 **RENAULT Laguna 2.0 16v Expression 5-dr.** Finished in met grey, alloy wheels, e/sunroof, a/c, radio/CD, 47k .. £5695
06 **CITROEN C4 1.4 VT Coupe.** Finished in met grey, pas, r/c/l, e/w, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 37k £4995
55 **VAUXHALL Astra 1.4 Life 5-dr.** Finished in met blue, pas, c/l,e/w, radio/cd, 43k £5495
55 **VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4 Life 5-dr.** Finished in met black, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, a/c £5195
05 **SEAT Altea Reference 1.6 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, pas, c/l, e/w, a/con, 34k £6495
05 **NISSAN Almera 1.8 SE Auto 5-dr.** Finished in black, alloy wheels, a/c, radio/cd, parking sensors, 43k £4495
54 **VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.6S FSi 5-dr.** Finished in met grey, pas, c/l, e/w, air con, radio/cd, 6 speed, fsh, 65k £6695
04 **RENAULT Megane 1.6 Expression 4-dr.** Finished in met blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, radio/cd, 56k £4295
53 **FORD Focus Zetec 1.6 5-dr.** Finished in tonic blue, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 64k £4495
53 **RENAULT Megane Expression 1.6 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 52k £4295
53 **FORD Mondeo Zetec 2.0 5-dr.** Finished in met. blue, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 92k £3495
03 **CITROEN C5 LX 5-dr 2.0 HDi (Diesel).** Finished in met red, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 81k £2995
03 **ROVER 75 1.8T Club SE 4-dr.** Finished in met. blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, alloys £2995

SMALL CARS

56 **SEAT Ibiza 1.4 DAB 3-dr.** Finished in met grey, pas, c/l, e/w, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 1 owner, 43k £5995
56 **HYUNDAI Getz 1.1 GSI 3-dr.** Met ice blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 27k £4695
04 **TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 T3 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, c/l, e/w, pas, 48k £4995
04 **VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi 5-dr.** Finished in met blue, alloys, radio/cd, pas, c/l, e/w, 43k £4295
04 **RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, cd £3995
04 **VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Energy.** Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 42k £3995
04 **FORD Fiesta 1.25 Finesse 3-dr.** Finished in forest green, pas, cd £3995
04/53 **MINI Cooper 1.6.** Finished in met blue, white roof, white alloys, **half leather trim**, John Coopers works body kit, full panoramic roof, chilli pack, radio/cd, 51k £7995
04/53 **FIAT Punto 1.2 Active 3-dr.** Finished in lagoon blue met, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, 50k £3295
53 **RENAULT Clio 1.2 Dynamique 3-dr.** Finished in red, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 35k £4495
53 **FORD Ka 1.3** finished in met black, pas, radio/cd, alloys £3195
03 **FORD KA 1.3 Luxury 3-dr.** Finished in pepper red met with **full black leather,** alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 64k £3695
52 **VW Polo 1.4 SE FSi (56) 5-dr.** Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 72k £4295
02 **RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.6 3-dr.** Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd £2995

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

56 **New Model FORD Transit 280 SWB Low Roof TDCi (110) (Diesel) Van.** Finished in red, pas, c/l, ply-lined side loading door, dual passenger seat, 60k ..... £6995 + VAT
56 **CITROEN Berlingo 600 LX (Diesel) van.** Finished in white, side loading door, ply lined, pas, e/w, 59k ..... £4295 + VAT

07/56 VW PASSAT Estate 2.0 Sport TDi 170 (Diesel) DSG Auto 5-dr. Finished in met black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, fsh, 82k.....£10295

02 AUDI TT 180. Finished in met silver with **full black leather**, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 80k.....£8295

03 FORD KA 1.3 Luxury 3-dr. Finished in pepper red met with **full black leather,** alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 64k £3695

57 FIAT Bravo Active 1.9 Multijet (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in met blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, radio/cd..£8795

06 JAGUAR X-Type 2.0 D (Diesel) SE Estate Finished in met silver, **full black leather**, alloys, a/c, sat-nav, radio/cd.....£8795

06 RENAULT Laguna 2.0 16v Expression 5-Dr. Finished in met grey, alloy wheels, e/sunroof, a/c, radio/CD, 47k ..£5695

57 FIAT Punto Grande Eleganza 1.4 Auto 5-dr. Finished in met red, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 29k...£7195

04/53 MINI Cooper 1.6. Finished in met blue, white roof, white alloys, **half leather trim**, John Coopers works body kit, full panoramic roof, chilli pack, radio/cd, 51k.....£7995

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56 CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.6 SX
Just 9k, 1 owner + demo, a/c, alloys, cd player, plush trim, huge saving from new

51 MERCEDES ML55 AMG Auto.
80k, s/history, e/leather, sat nav, cruise, xenons, chrome steps + bar

02 MAZDA 323 2.0 Sport
1 owner + demo, fmsh, alloys, a/c, cd system, sports trim, mint

X VW Beetle 2.0. 1 owner, 68k, FSH, heated sports leather, air con, alloys, front fogs, multidisc, mint example

03 PEUGEOT 206 SW 1.4 HDi.
80k, lady owner, e/pack, air con, Cd player, 60mpg. £35pa to tax.

05 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 Design Auto
45k, half leather, air con, CD system, alloys, desirable auto

05	**FORD Ka 1.3.** Lady owner, 17k, p/steering, ideal 1st car, low tax and insurance	£3995
54	**ROVER 25 SEi T Diesel.** 48k, a/c, alloys, cd, superb MPG, top spec	£3995
54	**PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Zest 2.** Lady owner, 40k, s/history, cd system, e/windows, front fogs, low tax and ins	£3995
04	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Design.** 40k, 2 owners, FVSH, air con, cd player, full e/pack, rare colour, low tax & insurance	£4395
04	**FIAT Punto 1.2 8 Valve Active.** 50k, lady owner, e/pack, cd system, low tax and insurance, only	£3495
03	**KIA Seoona 2.9 CRDT 7 seater.** Leather, a/c, dvd player, privacy glass, good mpg, rare	£4395
03	**MAZDA 6 1.8 TS Saloon.** Fsh, alloys, sports trim, cd system, a/con, japanese reliability at	£3495
03	**FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec.** 60k, alloys, e/windows, cd, sport interior	£3995
52	**VW Golf 1.8 GTi Turbo.** 85k, s/history, alloys, climate, cd system, sports trim, superb example	£4995
52	**PEUGEOT 307 1.6 LX SW** 55k, fsh, e/pack, alloys, a/c, cd, low ins, lovely estate at	£3995
52	**CITROEN Picasso 2.0 SX HDi.** 59k, service history, air con, cd system, fuel computer, multi-function wheel	£3995
52	**RENAULT Laguna 1.9 DCi Authentique,** fsh, 45+ mpg, only	£2995
52	**VAUXHALL Vectra 2.2 LS** 68k, s/history, air con, cd system, plush interior, ideal family car	£2995
52	**HYUNDAI Accent 1.5 GSi TDi.** 1 owner, 70k, e/pack, cd, 60mpg, only	£1995
02	**MERCEDES 430 CLK Avantgarde Auto.** 90k, s/history, leather, a/con, cd system, cruise, lovely example	£5995
51	**DAEWOO Tacuma 2.0 CDX Auto.** 70k, lady owner, versatility	£2495
51	**TOYOTA Avensis 1.8 GS VVTi.** 80k, fsh, CD system, air con, plush interior, lovely example. Japanese reliability	£2695
51	**FORD Focus 1.4 LX 3-dr.** One owner, full e/pack, low tax & insurance, desirable at	£2995
51	**FORD Fiesta 1.3 Flight.** 72k, lady owner, p/steering, alloys, CD player, low ins, stunning	£2495
Y	**VW Golf 1.6 SE** FSH, lady owner, air con, CD system, full e/pack, low insurance group	£2995
Y	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi** 90k, alloys, cd player, sport interior, low tax & ins, superb at	£2695
Y	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi** Lady owner, upgrade alloys, cd system, e/pack,low tax & ins	£2395
Y	**SEAT Leon 1.9 TDi S.** Nice miles, s/history, alloys, a/con, cd system, superb economy	£2995
Y	**PEUGEOT 306 2.0 HDi Meridian Estate.** Half leather, e/pack, a/c, alloys, ideal workhorse at	£1995
Y	**VAUXHALL Vectra 1.8 SRi Estate.** Half leather, alloys	£1995
Y	**VOLVO S80 2.4 SE Manual.** Full leather, air con, CD system, alloys, nice example at only	£1995
Y	**VAUXHALL Vectra 1.8 Auto.** A/c, e/pack, rare!	£1495
X	**PORSCHE Boxster 2.7.** Leather/alcantra trim, Khan alloys, cd, 66k, super performance	£8995
X	**RENAULT Clio 2.0 Sport.** 80k, leather/alcantra trim, air con, alloys, CD system, front fogs	£2995
W	**RENAULT Megane 1.6 Sport Alize Convertible.** 80k, lady owner, e/hood, alloys, a/c, cd player, superb	£2995
W	**CITROEN Synergie 2.0 LX.** 7 seater, full elec/pack, huge carrying capacity, viewing recommended	£2995
W	**VAUXHALL Zafira 1.8 Club 7 Seater MPV.** 82,000 miles, cd player, practical and reliable, in Moondust Silver, only	£2995
W	**HYUNDAI 2.0 SE Coupe.** 60k, leather, alloys, a/con, s/roof, stunning car	£2695
W	**SUZUKI Jimny 1.2 JLX.** Lady owner, 60k, chrome pack, alloys, cd player, e/windows, viewing essential	£2495
W	**FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec.** 5-dr, 80k, alloys, a/c, e/windows, low tax & ins, just	£1995
W	**FIAT Brava 1.2 80 SX.** 1 owner, 68k, s/history, e/pack, e/s roof, low tax & ins	£1695
99	**SAAB 93 S Convertible.** 70k, FSH, leather, alloys, e/hood, multi cd, a/c	£2995
T	**VOLVO C70 2.4 Auto.** Half leather, alloys, a/c, cd, hard to find at	£1995
T	**FORD Mondeo 1.8 LX Auto.** 75k, e/pack, nice car	£1395
T	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Envoy 5-Dr.** 65k, low tax & ins, ideal 1st car	£1295
S	**98 SAAB 93 s Convertible.** 80k, FSH, leather, alloys, e/hood, cd, a/c	£2695
S	**FORD Ka 1300.** 70k, pas, jazzy trim, lovely example, low tax & ins	£1695
97	**PORSCHE 2.5 S Manual.** 90k, FSH, leather, e/roof, 18" alloys	£8695
P	**MGF 1.8 Convertible.** 41k, s/history, alloys, cd player, e/windows. Lovely condition throughout	£1995
P	**TOYOTA RAV4 2.0 Auto.** 90k, lady owner, s/history, 5-door, rare 4x4 auto	£1995
P	**FORD Scorpio 2.3 Ghia Estate.** Full e/pack, top spec model, huge carrying capacity	£1295
N	**SAAB 93 S Convertible Auto.** leather, alloys, a/c, lady owner, nice example	£2495

04 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 HDi 'S' 110 bhp.
90k, s/history, alloys, air con, cd player, sports trim, 55 mpg.

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GEM sport

Cowbridge First XV fail to contain Barry backs

ON a blustery, showery afternoon Cowbridge Firsts took on high flying Barry at the Athletic Ground last Saturday.

Showing several changes from last week's victory against Cefn Coed, Cowbridge started confidently. But it didn't take long for the speedy Barry backs to make their mark, and after seven minutes, following a turnover the ball was passed crisply along the threequarters for the left wing to sprint over for a converted try.

Despite this early setback the strong Cowbridge pack began to dominate and a fine kick by No 9 Tom James took the home team into the Barry 22, but they were unable to capitalise.

A series of penalties to Cowbridge and some good lineout ball from captain Steve Birchenough kept Cowbridge on the front foot, but silly mistakes and some soft turnovers undid the good work.

Alun John replaced Luke Adams after 20 minutes and Cowbridge continued the pressure with youngsters Carwyn Lewis and Josh Lewis giving their everything.

Towards the end of the first half Barry started to dominate. Cowbridge managed to soak up the Barry attacks until the very last minute of the half when the Barry hooker took the ball down the blindside from a lineout on the Cowbridge 22 to brush off some weak tackling to score in the corner. The strong wind helped the conversion sail over.

Half time: Cowbridge 0, Barry 14

To their credit Cowbridge tore into Barry from the off and were rewarded almost immediately with an Edward Lakin penalty from 30 metres.

Unfortunately a poor Cowbridge clearance gifted Barry their third try as again poor tackling let them off the hook.

The next 20 minutes were all Cowbridge. Barry backs started dropping the ball and there was increasing pressure.

David Popham replaced Alex Kinsey after 20 minutes, and with some penetrative running by centre Huw Lougher and full back Harry Davies, there was still hope.

Cowbridge were within inches of a pushover try with 10 minutes to go, but it was Barry who had the final say with a fourth try following a midfield mistake.

Final score: Cowbridge 3, Barry 24.

This was a disappointing result and the boys' faces reflected that disappointment in the clubhouse afterwards. Too many turnovers gave Barry easy ball, but there were passages of play when Cowbridge were at least equal to Barry and a bit more consistency throughout the game will reap its rewards.

Second XV

THE Second XV travelled to Trelai Park in Cardiff, the former home of Cardiff (horse) Racing Club but now a wide expanse of parkland, to take on Caerau Ely. They secured a win that owed much to the contribution of youngsters Will Williams, Russ Watkins and Rob Thomas up front, and Josh Jones and Matt Rowland behind.

The opening minutes were a bit scrappy but Cowbridge wanted to run it and after a series of penalties, mainly against Caerau's No 7, Chris Willey at outside half had the first chance at goal but his effort struck the cross bar.

Two minutes later it was wing Mike Lloyd's turn but his kick caught a gust of wind to drift wide.

On the 20 minute mark, scrum half Josh Jones was harshly sinbinned for retaliation.

Then a good run by Chris Willey nearly took him over. Caerau had kindly lent a prop and he then actually crossed the line only to have the ball stripped from him before grounding.

Hooker Alan Lewis had to leave the field and Caerau lent Cowbridge a second player.

Then just before the 30 minute mark, flanker Russ Watkins broke from a scrum 20 metres out, and his run nearly saw him there. The alert Will Williams was on hand to pick up and crash over for the first unconverted try.

Chris Willey made a number of strong runs in this period and he got his reward when, from a good pass from Josh Jones, Willey beat the first man, went through the gap, and was strong enough to carry the tacklers over with him for a try he converted.

Just before half time wing Mike Lloyd had a good run up the wing. He chipped ahead and then bundled his opposite number into touch. A clever short throw-in by No 8 Rupert Pembridge to Charlie, the loaned Caerau prop, resulted in Charlie crossing the line after the ball passed through several hands. Half time 0 -19.

Caerau made wholesale changes for the second half obviously smarting at going behind.

Eight minutes in and they were back in contention when a clever cross field kick by their scrum half was taken by the right wing .

Then came a crucial score. From a free kick Josh Jones hoisted a high up and under, full back Matt Rowland followed it and caught it and, still with plenty to do, ran 45 metres bouncing off their winger's attempt to stop him to score a vital try.

Caerau took the game to Cowbridge through the forwards mainly, and it took a mighty defensive effort led by Rupert Pembridge, supported by Jamie Bassett and Lewis Ward, to keep them out. They did score on the half way point from a quickly taken penalty and the conversion made it 12-24.

Just before the close Jamie Bassett threw into the lineout fully five metres wide of the line, clearly a tactic to make everyone laugh.

Dai Knight and Guy Young helped to shore up the midfield so that everyone played their part in the victory.

Final score: 12-24

It was a good team effort and credit to Guy Young for rallying his players. Thanks also to Caerau for the loan of the players who certainly got stuck in.

This week the Firsts travel to Penygraig with Senghennydd at home the following week while the Seconds are due to play Clwb Rygbi away with the following week a home game against Llanishen Thirds.

The Youth have a home league game against Llandaff North whilst on Sunday the Ladies take on Amman United at home

RV/RK/NJ

TOWN SUFFER CUP EXIT IN EXTRA TIME

COWBRIDGE Town FC suffered heartbreak in their first round Barry & District cup-tie at the Bear Field, as a tidy Wenvoe outfit took the spoils in extra time.

Wenvoe, a league above newly reformed Town, clearly had one eye on an easy afternoon run out against a side whose league table position doesn't tell the full story.

Cowbridge harried their opponents from the off, and with the bit between their teeth more than matched Wenvoe. The red and blacks found early reward too, as centre forward Timothy Howard touched the ball past his marker, drawing a reckless foul which sent him tumbling to the floor to the sound of the referee's whistle and a gesture to the spot for a penalty.

As is usual, Jack Gavin sent the keeper the wrong way for the spot in imperious fashion.

Wenvoe were struggling to make any impact on the defensive unit of Town, and so, Cowbridge were disappointed that they gifted such a soft goal to their opponents. A sloppy free kick was conceded on the corner of the Town box, and the ball skimmed off the head of the first defender and into the path of the onrushing striker to poke home from two yards out.

The goal settled Wenvoe, but Cowbridge maintained their tempo, making the game a fiery encounter. Tempers flared throughout but a mature and calm refereeing performance ensured that things were kept below boiling point.

Sadly, it was Cowbridge's indiscipline which cost them – as a defensive mix up allowed the Wenvoe striker clean air in the box and his poke home put Wenvoe in the driving seat.

The visitors failed to push on, and clearly felt the job was done. Cowbridge never dropped their heads though and – despite an uncharacteristic missed penalty from striker Gavin – got their rewards in the second half as pressure on Wenvoe forced a mistake which allowed Lloyd Lewis to slide the ball home, despite the best efforts of Philip Harris to claim his first Town goal.

That rallied Cowbridge, but a late surge for a winner proved to be in vain as the match ended, and extra time loomed. It was sad for Cowbridge that a Wenvoe goal came so early as the striker found a gap at the back post to volley home.

Visibly tired Cowbridge tried to push for an equalizer but instead Wenvoe enjoyed the extra space and added two more late goals to their tally, which ultimately flattered the visitors.

Cowbridge Bowling Club's mixed pairs tournament

COWBRIDGE Bowling Club had their first invitation mixed pairs competition to play for a silver plate, presented to the club by Reta Thomas.

Twenty couples entered and they played a round-robin in four leagues of five teams. The matches started at 9.45am and were played in on-off rain, but it didn't stop the enjoyment of it all.

There was a break at lunch for soup and a roll, then it was back out to complete the matches.

At the end, the four pairs with the most points went into the semi-final.

Glenys and Eric Davies beat Charles Sanders and Judy Springett 14-4, and in the other semi, Shirley and Norman Wilkinson beat Helena and Dennis Snelling 10-2.

In a good, even final, played in the dry at last (!) Shirley and Norman beat Glenys and Eric 18-12.

Then it was all in for a sausage and mash meal, supplied by Reta and David Thomas, helped by their daughter Gillian and many other little helpers!

The day was finished off with a singalong with Richard Haines at the piano.

A really great club day was had by all, thanks to Reta and David.

NJW

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